



## *California Environmental Protection Agency*

***Mission:*** *To restore, protect and enhance the environment to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality.*

***Vision:*** *A California that enjoys a clean, healthy, sustainable environment that enhances the quality of life for current and future generations, and protects our diverse natural resources.*

### ***INTRODUCTION***

This document reports significant accomplishments of each of the boards and departments within the Cal/EPA family for the first six months of 2000. It also defines goals for the second six months of 2000.

The purpose of this document is to ensure that all interested parties – California residents, legislators and staff, environmental organizations, and industry – have a clear picture of where we have been and where we are going.

Future reports will be published shortly after the end of each six-month period so that we account for our activities and generate a dialogue regarding the direction Cal/EPA is taking.

Winston H. Hickox, Agency Secretary  
California Environmental Protection Agency



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## AIR RESOURCES BOARD

*The Air Resources Board promotes and protects public health, welfare, and ecological resources through the effective and efficient reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering the effects on the economy of the State.*

### Accomplishments during the First Half of 2000

1. **MTBE Phase-Out.** The Air Resources Board (ARB), the State Water Resources Control Board, and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment prepared reports on the environmental fate and transport of ethanol in air and water (surface and ground), and health effects of using ethanol in gasoline. Based on the findings in these reports, the California Environmental Policy Council on January 18 concluded ethanol use in gasoline did not pose a significant environmental risk. While the Board continues to lobby for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) approval of California's request for a waiver from the federal mandate requiring oxygenates in reformulated gasoline, the Board is also evaluating the impact of proposed federal legislation to require that gasoline in smog impacted areas contain 1.2 percent renewable fuels (ethanol).
2. **New Mobile Source Emission Standards.** In January, the Board approved more stringent standards for off-road diesel engines that will phase-in beginning in 2000, several years earlier than expected in the California Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP). In February, the Board approved a public transit bus fleet rule and emissions standards for new urban buses that provide both immediate and long-term emission reductions and require the introduction of zero-emissions buses into the fleet by the end of the decade. Both of these rules fulfill emission reduction commitments in the Ozone SIP and reduce public exposure to toxic particulates in diesel exhaust.
3. **Enhanced Vapor Recovery Program.** In March, the Board adopted more stringent standards and new equipment specifications for vapor recovery systems. These improvements will reduce spillage and evaporation from gasoline nozzles, make vapor recovery systems compatible with the on-board vapor recovery systems on motor vehicles, and require monitoring to ensure vapor recovery equipment systems work in the field.

4. **Improvements to Smoke Management Program.** In March, the Board adopted revisions to California's smoke management regulations. These changes are meant to reduce the impacts of smoke from crop and forestry burning. Most of the changes address the use of prescribed burning in forests or rangelands. The regulatory changes will require consideration of the cumulative impacts of all fires within an airshed; increased coordination between air quality, fire agencies, state and federal land managers, farmers and ranchers, both within and between airsheds; and ensure that prescribed burners evaluate and use techniques to minimize smoke.
5. **Chlorinated Toxic Control Measure.** In April, the Board adopted a new air toxic control measure to eliminate the use of the toxic air contaminants perchloroethylene, methylene chloride, and trichloroethylene in automotive consumer products such as brake cleaners, carburetor cleaners, engine degreasers, and general purpose degreasers. The control measure will reduce emissions of these toxic compounds by about five tons per day (TPD) in California.
6. **Architectural Coatings Measure.** In June, the Board adopted lower emission limits for 11 architectural coating categories as revisions to ARB's suggested control measure for these sources of air pollution. These changes will reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs) by 10 TPD statewide (excluding the South Coast Air Basin which already has the same standards in place). The measure will be used as a model for air districts when they adopt and amend their local architectural coatings rules.
7. **Health Research – Vulnerable Populations Program.** The ARB is continuing to pursue a new program to better understand how pollution affects the most vulnerable segments of our population. In January, the Board approved funding for one of the first parts of this effort – the Fresno Asthmatic Children's Environment Study. This study will provide information on how asthmatic children in Fresno are affected by air pollution.

8. **New Mobile Source Emission Model.** In May, the Board approved a new motor vehicle emissions inventory called EMFAC 2000 for estimating on-road mobile source emissions. EMFAC 2000 provides better estimates of the actual emissions from vehicles as they are driven. These improvements increase the total estimated emissions from motor vehicles substantially, by as much as 30 to 70 percent per pollutant. Although overall emissions from mobile sources are continuing to decline, these higher estimates mean that motor vehicles contribute more to air pollution than previously thought. The Board plans to use EMFAC 2000 in the next update to ARB's motor vehicle control strategy in 2001.
9. **California Fuel Cell Partnership.** The ARB continues to participate in the California Fuel Cell Partnership to place about 50 fuel cell powered cars and buses on the road between 2000 and 2003 and to test them under real world driving conditions. In April, the California Fuel Cell Partnership broke ground in West Sacramento for its state-of-the-art facility to house the fuel cell cars and buses that will start arriving later this year. The facility includes hydrogen and methanol fueling stations, test bays, administrative offices, and a public gallery. The Partnership's steering committee also held its quarterly meeting in April to discuss commercialization of fuel cell vehicles.
10. **Central California Ozone Study.** In June, the ARB began a major field study as part of the Central California Ozone Study. The field study will cover nearly all of northern and central California. Data from this study will improve understanding of how much and where pollution is generated and transported, and support the next round of state and federal ozone attainment plans.
11. **South Coast Ozone Plan.** In January, ARB approved the 1999 SIP for the South Coast and submitted the plan to U.S. EPA as a revision to the 1994 California Ozone SIP. The plan provides additional near-term emission reductions by accelerating the rulemaking schedule for a number of South Coast Air Quality Management District rules and reflects the District's adoption of over 150 TPD of new emission reductions since the 1994 SIP. This plan is an interim step before a comprehensive revision to state and local control strategies planned for early 2001.
12. **Air Quality and Agriculture Forum.** In June, ARB and the California Department of Food and Agriculture hosted the "2000 Air Quality and Agriculture Forum" in Tulare. The forum brought together key people from the agricultural industry and government agencies to discuss air quality issues related to agriculture. The forum featured presentations on local, state, and national efforts to reduce air pollution from agricultural operations through voluntary strategies, as well as related research.

13. **Local Elected Officials Conference.** In May, the ARB held its second air quality conference for California's local elected officials. The conference provided an opportunity for elected officials and other government representatives to share information on emerging air quality issues and the role of local officials in improving California's air quality. The conference also helped to strengthen the state and local partnership needed to attain mutual clean air goals.
14. **Indoor Air Quality.** In May, ARB and the California Department of Health Services sponsored a symposium to examine the relatively high public health risk posed by indoor air pollution and discuss actions needed to address this major environmental problem. In April, ARB staff updated the Board on current activities and issues in indoor air quality. The Board asked staff to provide additional information on opportunities for risk reductions that the Board could pursue this year.
15. **Aerosol Coatings Reactivity Regulation.** In June, the Board adopted amendments to ARB's aerosol coatings regulation that replace the January 1, 2002, VOC content limits with photochemical reactivity-based limits that achieve equivalent air quality benefits. Reactivity-based VOC limits also provide more flexibility for manufacturers while efficiently reducing the ozone formed from aerosol coatings.
16. **Carl Moyer Incentive Program.** In March, the Carl Moyer Program Advisory Board released a report recommending that the program, which provides funds to reduce emissions from diesel engines, receive continued funding at a level of at least \$100 million per year through 2010. In June, ARB distributed \$24.5 million in fiscal year 1999-2000 funds to 16 air districts. The program continues to be a success, with funding requests exceeding available funds by more than a factor of three.



## Priorities for the Second Half of 2000

1. **MTBE Phase-Out.** In July, ARB staff updated the Board on the progress of phasing out MTBE. Through monthly workshops, the ARB will continue to work with industry and other interested parties to implement the phase-out of MTBE from gasoline by the end of 2002 as required by the Governor's Executive Order. In November, the Board will consider follow-up adjustments to the Phase III gasoline regulation to address specific ethanol blending requirements and small refiner concerns. The Board will also continue to lobby for U.S. EPA approval of the state's request for a waiver from the federal mandate requiring oxygenates in reformulated gasoline.
2. **ZEV Biennial Review.** In September, the Board will conduct a biennial review of the Zero Emission Vehicle program. The Board will consider the status of ZEV technology, the electric vehicle market, and the environmental and energy benefits of ZEVs. This review will address the next major milestone in program implementation – the requirement that at least 4 percent of all new vehicles offered for sale by major automakers in 2003 have zero emissions that damage air quality. ARB has already held two public workshops as part of the review. In May, ARB released a draft staff report that concludes reliable battery-powered vehicles are available, vehicle performance can meet the needs of specialized applications, and that there are sufficient markets to absorb the required number of ZEVs.
3. **Emission Reductions from School Buses.** In December, the Board will consider guidelines for implementing a program designed to replace older diesel school buses with new, lower polluting school buses or install diesel particulate matter traps on existing fleets. The governor has proposed \$50 million in the fiscal year 2000-2001 budget for this program. The school bus replacement program will reduce emissions of NOx and diesel particulates.
4. **Diesel Risk Management.** In September, the Board will consider two reports being developed as part of ARB's diesel risk management program. The risk management plan will: identify the current public health impact of particulate emissions from diesel-fueled engines; assess the effectiveness of programs currently in place; and determine what technically and economically feasible strategies could be pursued to further reduce emissions. The second report, risk management guidelines, will assist local air districts in permitting new and modified stationary sources that operate diesel-fueled engines.

5. **Asbestos Control Measure.** In July, the Board will consider updating its asbestos airborne toxic control measure (ATCM) to prohibit the use of naturally occurring asbestos-containing materials in surfacing materials. The ARB is also continuing to work with industry on the development of a separate ATCM for quarrying/surface mining operations and construction/grading activities. The Board will consider this measure in November.
6. **Control Technology Guidance for Stationary Internal Combustion Engines.** The ARB will continue to work with industry and the air districts on proposed guidance on reasonably available control technology and best available retrofit control technology to reduce emissions from existing stationary internal combustion engines. The guidance would assist districts in establishing effective, consistent emission standards for these engines. The California Clean Air Act requires areas that do not attain the state ozone standard to apply either reasonably available or best available retrofit control technology to stationary sources. In November, the Board will consider guidance for gasoline-powered engines. Diesel engines will be considered as part of the diesel risk management efforts.
7. **Indoor Air Quality.** This fall, the Board will consider staff recommendations on opportunities that ARB could pursue to reduce the health risk from indoor air pollution. Although ARB has no authority to regulate indoor air quality, the recommendations will lay out actions that can and should be taken in California to reduce indoor pollution and related health risk.
8. **Health Research – Vulnerable Populations Program.** ARB staff will begin recruiting children for the Fresno Asthmatic Children's Environment Study in August or September as part of the Board's new program to better understand how pollution affects the most vulnerable segments of our population.
9. **California Fuel Cell Partnership.** The ARB will continue to participate in the California Fuel Cell Partnership to place about 50 fuel cell powered cars and buses on the road in 2000-2003 and to test them under real world driving conditions. Fuel cell cars and buses are expected to arrive later this year at the new West Sacramento facility.
10. **Carl Moyer Program.** In November, the Board will consider several modifications to the Carl Moyer Heavy-Duty Vehicle Incentive Program guidelines including adding requirements, goals, and methodologies for particulate matter emission reductions.
11. **Rice Straw Conditional Burn Regulation.** In September, the Board will consider a rice straw conditional burn permit regulation that defines what

farmers must do to verify disease infestation before they can get a permit to burn rice straw. State law requires that, beginning in September 2001, Sacramento Valley air districts may grant rice straw burning permits only if the county agricultural commissioner finds that a farmer's rice fields are likely to experience a quantifiable and significant reduction in yield resulting from a rice disease.

## DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION

*The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) regulates the use of pesticides to protect human health and the environment.*

### Accomplishments during First Half of 2000

1. **Pesticide Risk Characterization/Exposure Assessments under the Birth Defect Prevention Act of 1984 (SB 950).** DPR released two risk assessments (atrazine and thiabendazole) for peer review on June 30. The scheduled release of risk assessments for other pesticides were delayed due to risk management activities for azinphos-methyl, methyl bromide, 1,2 dichloropropane, and DEF.
2. **Pesticide Illness Surveillance Annual Report.** The Department issued the 1998 Annual Report of the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) in February. Overall, there were 998 potential or confirmed cases of pesticide illness in 1998, down 24 percent from the previous year. About 63 percent--632 illnesses--were nonagricultural, while 366 reports involved pesticide use in agricultural settings. The report also describes incidents of special concern, with particular detail provided on the investigation into an early reentry incident that caused illness to 34 field workers weeding a cotton field.
3. **Pesticide Illness Investigation Program.** DPR initiated an enhanced Pesticide Illness Investigation Program. This program will assist county agricultural commissioners (CACs) in conducting illness investigations or parallel investigations, with a focus on exposure and occupational safety. A document outlining how this program will function has been drafted; a completed document is expected by December.
4. **Physician Reporting Improvement Project.** The Worker Health and Safety (WH&S) Branch staff completed the study report for this illness surveillance project. The document (HS-1781) is available on the DPR Web site. As a result of this project, direct physician reporting increased from about 13 percent to 30 percent of the total cases entered into the illness surveillance database. DPR will explore ways to further improve physician reporting.

5. **Information Technology.**

- The Information Technology Office (ITO) is developing a Web-based procurement application that allows DPR staff to complete an online form to request purchases and replaces the DPR-21 hard copy form. In addition, a Web-based application is in production that allows online reporting of purchases made using the Cal Card.
- A feasibility study report has been approved by the Department of Information Technology for the Department's Internet-Based Pesticide Resource Directory, which will provide external customers access to department database resources. The Web-based project will begin in July.
- The Licensing and Certification Program designed, tested, and implemented a new licensing database for issuing and renewing pest control applicator, adviser, and business licenses. The new system required major review and revision of internal policies and business rules which affected virtually every area of the program (forms, applications, policy statements, etc.). The Licensing and Certification Program also automated examination results notification. Data entry time was reduced from ten hours to ten minutes, and results are now available on our Web site within 10 working days of the examination.

6. **Enforcement Initiative.** DPR completed its enforcement initiative through the development of an action plan. Items underway include expansion of the resources for compliance assessment and county oversight, initiating a drift control initiative, improving enforcement planning and evaluations, and enhancing state and county authorities.

7. **Methyl Bromide.** On January 21, DPR noticed proposed regulations to adopt many of DPR's methyl bromide "suggested permit conditions" for field soil fumigation. During the 45-day public comment period, DPR held four statewide public hearings. DPR, under a court order to submit final regulations to the Office of Administrative Law by June 1, requested the court give a four-month extension to allow DPR to comment fully as required by law to the more than 1,000 comments received on the proposed regulations. Also, DPR contracted with the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to provide peer review of DPR's risk assessment of methyl bromide upon which the proposed regulations were based.

On May 19, DPR sponsored a public workshop to discuss the NAS peer review with NAS peer review subcommittee members. In May, DPR noticed revised regulations for a 15-day public comment period. The revised language clarifies procedures to notify neighbors and would allow certain buffer zones to extend into neighboring agricultural property with permission of the owner.

8. **Pesticide/Wildlife Incident Response Plan (PWIRP).** DPR's Pesticide Enforcement Branch staff completed work on a memorandum of understanding between the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, DPR, and the Department of Fish and Game. The PWIRP provides an outline of procedures and guidelines for these organizations to follow when responding to incidents involving nontarget fish and wildlife resources. The PWIRP is designed to foster greater communication, cooperation, and coordination of joint responsibilities resulting from incidents associated with pesticide use and wildlife.
9. **Toxic Air Contaminants (AB 1807).** The Scientific Review Panel accepted DPR's toxic air contaminant (TAC) documents for methyl parathion and metam sodium (including its volatile breakdown product MITC). DPR initiated rulemaking to list methyl parathion as a TAC. DPR adopted a regulation to add tribufos to the TAC list.
10. **Pesticide Use Reporting.** The pesticide use reporting database was modified in the fall of 1999 to improve the accuracy of the data and streamline the electronic reporting process. The preliminary 1999 annual pesticide use report (PUR) was released in June 2000; the statewide and county summaries are available on DPR's Web site. (The data are released as annual statewide and county summary tables, and as a complete database on CD-ROM.) A conference on pesticide use reporting was held on May 8. DPR received a list of PUR issues of concern generated from the conference.
11. **Red Imported Fire Ant.** Since March 1999, the Environmental Hazards Assessment Program of DPR has been taking monthly surface water samples from 10 sites representing urban and nursery areas in the Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) treatment areas in Orange County. The objectives are to determine the concentration of RIFA insecticides in runoff water from irrigation or during a rainstorm and to assess toxicity of these samples to an indicator aquatic organism - *Ceriodaphnia dubia*. Over 300 water samples have been analyzed for the RIFA chemicals: (1) baits - hydramethylnon, pyriproxyphen, and fenoxycarb; (2) granules - bifenthrin; (3) sprays and others - chlorpyrifos and diazinon.

Results indicated that (a) the bait materials were detected once from one site with slight aquatic toxicity, (b) bifenthrin were detected from runoff from nursery sites at toxic levels, and (c) the generally available insecticides chlorpyrifos and diazinon were detected in urban runoff with significant aquatic toxicity. The latter two chemicals are readily available to homeowners for general insect control. We are currently conducting an education and outreach program, and working with nurseries in conjunction with the University of California Cooperative Extension to mitigate runoff of these insecticides to surface water.

12. **Lompoc Pesticide Monitoring.** Monitoring for approximately 30 organophosphate pesticides was initiated in May and monitoring will continue through the summer and fall. Monitoring for selected fumigants took place during the last half of 1999 and first half of 2000. Monitoring for fumigants should be completed during the last half of 2000. All monitoring is being conducted in conjunction with the Lompoc Interagency Workgroup and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).
13. **Pest Management Grants.** In March, final reports were received from 28 new and continuing demonstration and applied research projects. These projects are designed to promote reduced-risk pest management practices at the local level. Projects have shown success in reducing or eliminating use of highly toxic pesticides, reducing the risk of worker exposure to pesticides, and reducing the potential of environmental contamination from pesticides, particularly in surface water. Effective March 1, there were 19 new and continuing projects awarded \$588,000 to promote increased adoption of reduced-risk practices in agricultural and urban settings.
14. **Pest Management Alliance.** In fall 1999 and spring 2000, DPR received final reports from eight pest management alliance projects. Alliance teams have been successful in demonstrating certain reduced-risk practices as effective alternatives to the use of highly toxic pesticides. DPR established the alliance program in 1998 to encourage statewide implementation of reduced-risk pest management. Emphasis is on demonstration and adoption of reduced-risk practices on a regional or statewide level. In June, DPR awarded \$780,000 for nine new and continuing projects. The funding is made available for groups to continue to increase awareness about the availability of effective reduced-risk alternatives, and to promote increased adoption of reduced-risk practices.

15. **Surface Water Protection.** DPR contracted with California State University at Fresno, the University of California, Davis, the Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Geological Survey, the San Francisco Estuary Project, the City of San Diego, the University of California Cooperative Extension, and the County of Alameda to provide controlled runoff studies, statistical analysis of the surface water database, identification of pesticide sources in urban waterways, and toxicity testing of surface water samples, including water samples taken from the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers during rain events. These contracts are designed to provide DPR's surface water program with the information necessary to assess pesticide residues in water bodies. DPR also initiated the 1999/2000 Rice Pesticide Monitoring Program. This program is designed to assess pesticides during the peak period for rice pesticide applications to determine the effectiveness of use restrictions.
16. **Sacramento River Watershed Program.** A stakeholder focus group met monthly and addressed issues related to water quality targets for organophosphate pesticides in the watershed and management practices that reduce pesticide runoff. In cooperation with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, DPR developed and executed a plan for monitoring pesticides in surface runoff during the winter.
17. **Copper Naphthenate Reevaluation.** In March, DPR concluded its reevaluation of pesticide products containing copper naphthenate. Applicators use copper naphthenate as a fungicide and wood preservative to protect wood from fungal decay and insect attack. The reevaluation was initiated due to concerns regarding use of the products indoors. During the reevaluation, the Naphthenate Salts Research Task Force agreed to prohibit any further use of copper naphthenate indoors. In the meantime, copper naphthenate registrants amended the labels of their products to delete all indoor uses and to add the statement "For Exterior Use Only."
18. **Redesign of the Department's Internet Web Site.** DPR has initiated a major overhaul and redesign of its Internet Web Site to make it more attractive and user friendly. DPR used this opportunity to establish more usable and understandable category titles and streamline the navigational structure so users have easier access to information on its Web site. The second phase of the redesign project includes developing a more robust search engine, establishing a centralized document directory structure, and developing template design pages for all secondary and tertiary Web pages. The second phase is scheduled for completion in July 2000.



19. **Drift Control Mitigation and Enforcement.** During the first half of 2000, DPR drafted a revision of the *Pesticide Drift Enforcement Policy*, which is undergoing review by the commissioners' five area groups. DPR also drafted proposed changes to the regulations pertaining to drift control with the Office of Administrative Law. Current drift control regulations are limited to certain restricted use herbicides. The proposed changes will pertain to all pesticide formulations for both restricted and nonrestricted uses.
20. **California/Mexico Border Project.** In April, the Information Exchange organized and conducted a registration workshop at U.S. EPA in Washington, D.C., focusing on the technical aspects of the registration review process. The workshop was attended by 10 Mexican registration specialists from each of the federal agencies responsible for pesticide registration. The workshop was a huge success, providing useful information to the Mexican specialists that has since been used in Mexico.
21. **County Program Oversight.** A team of DPR and CAC staff completed and implemented a revised prioritization plan and negotiated work plan between January and June. New policy changes were completed to implement the updated program. The proposed effectiveness evaluation was tested on a very small scale during this period and will be piloted with seven counties during the second half of 2000. County work plans will now be integrated with statewide priorities and environmental indicator evaluations, and accountability measures will be instituted statewide.
22. **Strategic Plan Update.** In April, DPR began revising its strategic plan and developing an operating plan to define its program functions, work products, and target dates. DPR has completed most of this planning process including adoption of new mission and vision statements and policy goals, and definition of environmental and program indicators. Operational plans are under development for each branch, as well as for a joint state-county planning session to improve the partnership with CAC representatives.

## Priorities for the Second Half of 2000

1. **Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs) - AB 1807.** DPR will bring three TAC risk assessment documents (azinphos methyl, molinate and chlorpyrifos) before the Scientific Review Panel for review and recommendation. DPR will receive findings from the Scientific Review Panel on the metam sodium/MITC document. The receipt of the findings will prompt DPR to initiate rulemaking to add MITC to the toxic air contaminant list.
2. **Pesticide Risk Characterization/Exposure Assessments under the Birth Defect Prevention Act of 1984 (SB 950)** DPR will complete risk characterization documents for acephate/methamidophos, captan, carbaryl, hydramethylnon, mancozeb/ETU, maneb/ETU, metam sodium, and methidathion. DPR will conduct or revise exposure assessments for chlorothalonil, amitraz, methyl parathion, and MITC.
3. **Exposure Guidance Document.** DPR staff anticipates completing the revised document, *Guidance for the Preparation of Human Pesticide Exposure Assessment Documents (HS-1612)*. This document contains, among other things, default physiological factors, protective factors for clothing, personal protective equipment, engineering controls, and activity patterns.
4. **California Pesticide Illness Surveillance Data Enhancement Project.** DPR staff anticipates completing this project by December. The project involves collecting information from past records of poison control, hospitalizations, and death certificates, and comparing that information to the data collected by the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program during the same period (1994–1996). This will tell us whether our surveillance overlooks any problems identified in these other sources.
5. **Study of Dislodgeable Foliar Residue: Comparison of Reduced-Volume and Conventional Applications.** A completed document for this study will be available in the second half of 2000. This study compares residue dissipation and decay following pesticide applications by reduced-volume and conventional application equipment. Reduced-volume application technology puts out a higher concentration of spray mix, which may result in lower exposures to pesticides for field workers.
6. **A Profile of Dislodgeable Pesticide Residues on Crop Foliage at Field Reentry, 1995–1999.** A report of pesticide residues found at the time of legal reentry is under development and will be completed in the second half of 2000. These data represent an index of potential field worker exposure.

DPR scientists collect foliage samples at the time of the expiration of the restricted entry interval.

7. **Methyl Bromide Regulations.** During the second half of 2000, DPR plans to prepare and file the final statement of reasons and regulations with the Office of Administrative Law. These regulations will replace some of the discretionary controls now set at the county level. DPR will also continue work group meetings with stakeholders to develop regulations for methyl bromide field fumigation activities that will address the seasonal and chronic exposure scenarios.
8. **Drift Control Mitigation and Enforcement.** During the second half of 2000, DPR plans to complete the revision of the *Pesticide Drift Enforcement Policy*, which is undergoing review by the county agricultural commissioners' five area groups. DPR also plans to prepare and file the notice of proposed changes to the regulations pertaining to drift control with the Office of Administrative Law. Current drift control regulations are limited to certain restricted use herbicides. The proposed changes will pertain to all pesticide formulations for both restricted and nonrestricted uses. Consultation with key stakeholders will occur during the course of this initiative.
9. **Metam Sodium Restrictions.** During the second half of 2000, DPR plans to complete the proposed permit conditions for metam sodium and begin working with the Registrant Task Force to modify the technical information bulletin (labeling). A workshop will be held to discuss further risk management measures based on the completed risk assessment.
10. **County Program Oversight.** Beginning in July, DPR will fully implement new county oversight plans, which represent a major change in the way DPR and the counties address pesticide issues and priorities. Under this new direction, DPR and the counties will be establishing a system to provide better county accountability for state and local priorities. These changes are based on the results of a joint quality improvement initiative in which DPR and county staff developed a process that more closely links state and local pesticide regulatory activities. During the second half of 2000, DPR plans to enter into pilot projects with seven counties to refine DPR's annual review of county accomplishments. During this phase, DPR and the pilot counties will review accomplishments, identify program areas that need improvement, and develop plans to implement the pilot improvements and projects. Based on the evaluations resulting from this new, three-part process, DPR will develop regulatory and policy changes to fully implement the program by July 2001.

11. **Pesticide Use Reporting (PUR).** In January 2001, DPR will release the corrected data for the 1999 PUR. DPR expects to release the 2000 PUR raw data and annual reports by June 30, 2001. DPR will also respond to the list of issues raised at the May PUR conference. The new PUR loading and error handling procedures should be finished and in place by the end of the 2000. These programs will automatically load and error-check data from the counties and keep a log of all errors found and corrections made to the database. DPR can send error reports back to the counties almost immediately after the data are received from the county.
12. **Volatile Organic Compound Emission Inventory.** DPR substituted measured estimates of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions for many pesticides that were previously assigned default VOC emission values. These values will be used to improve the estimation of pesticide VOC emissions and to analyze VOC emissions from agricultural and commercial structural pesticides for the years 1990 through 1999.
13. **Ground Water Regulations.** Currently, the Department imposes pesticide restrictions after pesticides are detected in ground water. The new regulations are designed to prevent contamination by identifying sensitive areas, based on weather and soil data, and regulating use in those areas. Based on comments received at workshops and other meetings held in the fall of 1999, DPR is finalizing the draft regulations for public notice and review in the second half of 2000.
14. **Total Maximum Daily Load Program.** DPR will work with the state water boards to define monitoring priorities. DPR will also: (1) work with growers and grower groups to document the validity of mitigation measures for the control of pesticides after application; and (2) maintain contract work aimed at identifying pesticide sources in urban creeks and quantifying loading in key waterways.

DPR will complete the Rice Pesticide Monitoring Program's Triennial Report for Rice during the second half of 2000, and will work to provide public access to the surface water database.

15. **Sacramento River Watershed Program.** In 1998, Sacramento River Watershed Project stakeholders agreed that the presence of organophosphate pesticides in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers should be reduced in order to protect aquatic resources, and recommended development of an organophosphate pesticide management plan. DPR will complete a draft of the water quality management strategy for diazinon in the Sacramento and Feather rivers. DPR will also develop a monitoring plan for the winter of 2000-2001.

16. **Lompoc Air Monitoring.** Depending upon the scheduling of pesticide applications, the Lompoc pesticide air monitoring program will be completed.
17. **Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Innovator Awards.** IPM innovators are groups that promote the adoption of reduced-risk pest management practices. Since DPR established the awards in 1994, there have been 55 urban and agricultural groups recognized. Information on this year's nominees will be gathered and reviewed by staff. The awards ceremony will be held in November.
18. **Internet-Based Pesticide Resource Directory Project (IBPRD).** The Department of Information Technology approved DPR's IBPRD project, scheduled to begin July 1. This project includes designing, developing, and implementing a Web-based centralized pesticide resource directory that will provide 24-hour, 7-day access to pesticide information via the Internet. Implementation of this project will improve pesticide information resources and provide pesticide data and pesticide registration action information that is not currently available to DPR's customers.
19. **E-Government and Business Function Initiative.** DPR has retained the Anderson Consulting Firm to analyze DPR's primary business functions to take advantage of the efficiencies of e-commerce on the Department's Web environment. The analysis will document our current processes, identify potential new processes taking advantage of the Web environment, and recommend restructuring or reinventing our business practices to enable a smooth transition to an Internet page environment. The consultants will interview DPR stakeholders to determine their needs, analyze DPR's current procedures and policies, and provide an implementation plan that will enable the Department to make the transition.
20. **Information Technology.**
  - The Information Technology Office is continuing its testing for clients logging into the Department's internal network remotely using Cisco's SecurID tokens. Once client testing is completed, and before the move to the new Cal/EPA building, all authorized DPR clients will be trained on the new process for accessing Department information resources remotely.

- ITO will complete its final testing of receiving and printing CalStarts information over the Department's network using a T1 communications line. This will eliminate coaxial connections that historically have been required to communicate information between DPR's network and Teale Data Center and the Health and Welfare Data Center mainframe computers. Testing will be completed and the new connection will go into production before DPR moves to the new Cal/EPA building.

21. **California/Mexico Border Project.**

- The members of the Information Exchange are planning an inspector exchange in August. Eight Mexican inspectors will visit each of the border states (two inspectors per state) for a two-week period. The purpose of the exchange is to observe standard inspection practices in each of the states, then bring these procedures back to Mexico for implementation of a Mexican inspection process. Topics of interest are inspection and investigation procedures, sampling techniques, and federal and state authority. The border states will then send inspectors to Mexico for training and observation in inspection procedures.
- DPR has begun recruitment efforts to fill the Border Coordinator position. The budget change proposal, approved by the governor and by the Legislature, combined small grants from U.S. EPA for other existing border activities to provide partial funding for a position at DPR. These are year-to-year grants with no guarantee of future funding. Ideally, stable funding and a lasting commitment to participate in border projects will increase cooperation on pesticide issues along the border.

22. **Strategic Plan Update.** DPR will complete its strategic plan and operating plan for 2000/01 by early August. DPR will continue to coordinate its planning effort with the effort underway at Cal/EPA to assure consistency and integration of both strategic plans.

## DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

*The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) regulates hazardous waste facilities and oversees the cleanup of hazardous waste sites in California. Protection of public health and the environment is the focus of all DTSC programs, and the Department's permitting, site cleanup, pollution prevention, environmental technology certification, public participation and education activities are driven by this commitment.*

### Accomplishments during First Half of 2000

1. **Children's Environmental Health Initiative.** In response to new legislation that requires Environmental Assessments of all proposed school sites, DTSC established a School Property Evaluation and Cleanup Division dedicated to fulfilling this mandate. During the reporting period, 266 Phase I documents and 10 Preliminary Endangerment Assessments submitted by the California Department of Education on behalf of various school districts were reviewed by DTSC, and determinations of safety were made for two existing schools that are located adjacent to landfills, Towne Avenue Elementary School and John H. Francis Polytechnic High School in Los Angeles County. In addition, a new environmental oversight agreement exclusively for school districts was developed by DTSC and is being implemented.
2. **State Superfund Sites.** Among the most notable accomplishments for the state Superfund Program during the reporting period were:
  - **Southern Pacific (now Union Pacific) Railroad-Sacramento Rail Yard.** DTSC has approved soil cleanup plans within four study areas of the site, which is slated for future mixed-use development. Remedial activities are underway to remove and dispose of 100,000 cubic yards of soil contaminated with a variety of contaminants.
  - **Ontario Ventures.** A consent order with Ontario Ventures I, the new owners of 600 acres of the former Kaiser Steel site in Fontana, was signed, covering the portion of this Brownfields site that remains to be cleaned up after the California Speedway was built. Plans for the property include construction of a large full-service truck plaza and a rail-served industrial park.
  - **University of California, Riverside.** A revised remedial design was approved for the University of California, Riverside, pesticide pits site. A contractor was hired to implement the new remedial design by first excavating and disposing of the buried pesticide containers, then treating the soil with low temperature thermal desorption.

3. **Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Workshop.** DTSC sponsored an UXO workshop in Sacramento on April 6. Experts from the military, private sector, citizen groups and local governments from throughout the country offered their perspectives on state-of-the-art detection and cleanup. There was a consensus that the limitations of current technology are such that additional measures and advanced technologies should be used to minimize residual risk. Since California has hundreds of sites where there is a suspected or known UXO threat, this topic is a high priority for DTSC.
4. **Enforcement Initiatives.** DTSC has strengthened the enforcement component of its regulatory program through the establishment of the Complex Enforcement Team (CET). CET was established with 21 positions located in regional offices throughout the state. The CET's primary responsibilities will be to reduce enforcement backlogs, work with environmental taskforces and support multi-media, multi-agency initiatives being developed by Cal/EPA.
5. **Naturally Occurring Asbestos.** DTSC is coordinating activities with other state and federal agencies to address the issue of naturally occurring asbestos. DTSC provided guidance on legal and technical requirements to El Dorado County on the removal of soil containing asbestos from a residential neighborhood in El Dorado Hills. With funding from U.S. EPA, DTSC has developed a bulk-materials/soil sampling workplan to identify the primary sources of airborne asbestos in the Garden Valley community. The sampling will be conducted in the summer of 2000.
6. **Military Base Remediation.** DTSC and the U.S. Navy entered into a Memorandum of Understanding regarding land use controls, ending a longstanding disagreement about the state's role in this aspect of cleanup. The agreement acknowledges that where cleanup levels are such that hazardous substances will be left behind at concentrations greater than is safe for unrestricted uses, restrictive covenants will be made part of the cleanup remedy to limit future uses. In April, DTSC was invited to an awards ceremony at the Pentagon to receive the Installation Cleanup Award from the Chief of Naval Operations.
7. **Oil Refinery Initiative.** The newly created Oil Refinery Team completed inspections at 21 petroleum refineries, including 10 joint DTSC/U.S. EPA inspections. The Oil Refinery Team is currently pursuing or evaluating enforcement cases at three of the inspected oil refineries.
8. **Brownfields Redevelopment.** DTSC is recognized nationally for its leadership and innovation in the environmental cleanup and reuse of



Brownfields. There are several significant Brownfields projects under development that have major economic, employment, and environmental benefits. These include:

- **IKEA (Emeryville).** This Swedish furniture importer/retail store opened its doors in April on the former Barbary Coast Steel site. DTSC had entered into a prospective purchaser agreement with IKEA for the property that allowed them to open their first retail store in Northern California. It is expected to generate \$70 million in annual sales and create 250-300 jobs at this 6-acre store.
  - **Ryland Homes (Mountain View).** DTSC entered into a prospective purchaser agreement with Ryland Homes that will allow development of 62 housing units on this former industrial site in Mountain View. The development will generate \$300,000 per year in new property taxes and will provide partial local funding for a school in the area.
  - **Pepper Lane (San Jose).** DTSC entered into a prospective purchaser agreement with a developer to construct a commercial industrial park on this former industrial site in San Jose. The development will generate about \$110,000 additional property tax revenues per year and will create approximately 200 new jobs.
  - **Aliso Street Towne Gas Plant (Los Angeles).** The cleanup of a 1.4-acre parcel of the former Aliso Street Towne Gas Plant site in downtown Los Angeles was completed. The cleanup involved excavation and removal of over 45,000 tons of contaminated soil, underground gasholder bases, and abandoned pipes.
9. **Emergency Response Program.** Emergency removal actions were completed at 1,118 illegal drug labs and 50 other non-drug lab related sites during the first six months of 2000. In addition, DTSC's work continued at the Gibson facility in Bakersfield through an agreement with 40 responsible parties to take over work to close and clean up this site, including removal of hazardous liquids from large facility storage tanks to abate the public health and environmental threat posed by leaking tanks.
10. **Multimedia Monitoring.** DTSC completed the first analysis of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in wildlife and human tissues. These data will allow comparisons with body burdens from other countries, as well as analysis of trends in California, and expand DTSC's capability to provide data needed for multimedia risk assessment.

## Priorities for Second Half Of 2000

1. **Implementation of Urban Cleanup Initiative (Brownfields).** DTSC will have major responsibilities for drafting policies and procedures to implement the Governor's Urban Cleanup Initiative (Brownfields). The 2000-01 State Budget contains \$85 million in new funding for investigation and cleanup of contaminated properties throughout the state. The funds will be used to provide financial assistance to landowners and developers to determine the condition of known or suspected contaminated properties and to clean up contaminated sites. During the first six months of fiscal year 2000/01, DTSC will provide support to Cal/EPA by developing the loan component of the program which will include developing criteria for awarding, preparing and distributing the loan application packages, and publicizing the program.
2. **California-Mexico Border Pollution Initiatives.** DTSC will allocate new resources to provide additional hazardous waste management training to representatives of industry and government in the border region, develop more comprehensive educational materials, establish bilingual capacity for the complaint hotline, add more inspectors to handle border inspections and related enforcement actions, improve coordination and technical assistance with Mexican officials, and promote pollution prevention.
3. **Hazardous Waste Manifesting.** DTSC plans to complete its alternative procurement process in October and to select a contractor to build the state's new Hazardous Waste Tracking System. One of the features of the new system will allow for the electronic submittal of manifest data via the Internet. This will represent DTSC's first project under the governor's e-Government initiative.
4. **Expanded Enforcement of Environmental Laws.** Using new positions approved by the Legislature to restore a portion of the environmental enforcement positions cut by the previous administration, DTSC will investigate and prosecute more environmental crimes, conduct more frequent facility inspections, aggressively pursue enforcement actions, provide additional laboratory resources to facilitate the collection of analytical evidence in support of enforcement actions, and provide inspectors and investigators with improved technological capabilities to enhance enforcement efforts.
5. **Pollution Prevention.** Pursuant to Senate Bill 1916 (Statutes of 1998), DTSC established an external advisory committee to further the goal of hazardous pollution prevention. With the committee's input and consultation,

DTSC has developed a two-year workplan for the pollution prevention program that involves the petroleum industry and the vehicle repair and maintenance industry. The plan was released for public review in May, with final approval of the plan expected by the end of the summer. Work will commence with the two industry sectors in July.

6. **Financial Responsibility of Hazardous Waste Facilities.** DTSC will evaluate the financial assurance instruments used by regulated entities to verify adequate coverage for third party liability, closure, and post-closure of hazardous waste facilities. DTSC plans to look at emerging financial issues associated with hazardous waste facilities, including the use of captive insurance policies. An information management system will be developed to assist with financial mechanism analyses, aid in the evaluation of trends in financial assurance, and enable DTSC to publish the total value of all financial assurance instruments under its control at any point in time. In addition, DTSC will be using the state-of-the-art systems to improve its ability to estimate closure costs for land disposal, treatment, and storage facilities and provide long term environmental protection.
7. **Internet Web Site.** DTSC will complete the first phase of its new Web site in the second half of 2000 with features that will allow the public and regulated community to obtain expanded information on hazardous waste sites, initiatives, accomplishments, and resources.
8. **Analogous Project 2000.** DTSC, in conjunction with the U.S. EPA Corrective Action Program, is conducting the Analogous Review, an environmental compliance audit of over 130 RCRA treatment, storage, and disposal facilities in California that are subject to RCRA corrective action. The audit formerly assessed corrective action progress at deferred facilities based on successful completion of RCRA equivalent milestones that were overseen by the DTSC and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards. There are 99 deferred RCRA facilities requiring assessment before December.

9. **Universal Waste Regulations.** DTSC intends to public notice regulations for the treatment, handling and disposal of universal wastes, which include mercury-containing thermostats, batteries, florescent tubes and other lighting wastes. The goal of the regulations is to ensure greater environmental protection by imposing new requirements on the disposal of these wastes at authorized hazardous waste disposal or recycling facilities. The regulations will replace emergency regulations adopted in January.
10. **Data Auditing.** In the second half of 2000, DTSC will begin an expanded program of auditing data from permitted facilities and potentially responsible parties. New software will be used to develop Data Quality Objectives and to assess the adequacy of data from hazardous waste facilities and sites in service to better monitor activities and protect public health and the environment.

## INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

*The six-member California Integrated Waste Management Board is responsible for protecting the public's health and safety and the environment through management of the estimated 56 million tons of solid waste generated in California each year.*

### Accomplishments during First Half of 2000

1. **Sustainable Building.** The Waste Board continues its leadership role in the development of sustainable building practices to ensure the optimum use of building products made with recycled and reusable materials. The IWMB coordinated a sustainable schools workshop for the Los Angeles Unified School District with assistance from green building consultants and state government environmental and health professionals who participate in the Green Building Taskforce. The workshop provided information on sustainable building issues, strategies, and resources for schools such as implementation strategies, case studies, daylighting, energy efficiency, materials selection, landscaping, water efficiency, waste management, and curriculum.
2. **Orphan Site Cleanup Program.** The Board completed two cleanup projects: 1) burn ash was consolidated at the Hilltop site in Redding and capped prior to the city constructing a bike path in the area; and 2) surface trash was removed and green waste material that was not composted was processed for placement on San Diego Parks Department property (Tijuana River site). Approximately six additional approved projects have been initiated and are scheduled for completion in the second half of 2000.
3. **Farm and Ranch Cleanup Grant Program.** The Board approved five grants totaling \$128,782 to clean up trash dumped at 32 farm and ranch sites. Three final reports verified the cleanup of 19 sites, with the remaining site cleanups in progress.
4. **Recycling Market Development Zone Loan Funding.** The RMDZ loan program has approved approximately \$8.5 million in loans to recycling based businesses in the first 6 months of this year. It is anticipated that the remaining 6 million dollars in the RMDZ sub-account will be approved for loans before the end of the year.
5. **IWMB and DGS Host Recycled Products Trade Show.** The Waste Board and the Department of General Services sponsored the inaugural

trade show in May aimed at state and local government procurement officers at the Sacramento Convention Center. Over 116 vendors of recycled products (RCPs) from around the country and Canada participated, with more than 1320 attendees taking advantage of the opportunity to view many quality RCPs and interact directly with vendors. Next year's show, set for April 11, 2001, will accommodate over 175 vendors.

6. **Used Oil Forum.** The first statewide used oil recycling forum was held in Pasadena in January. Approximately 220 representatives from local governments, non-profit organizations and private businesses attended the forum, which presented information on numerous topics including grant programs and reporting, grassroots outreach, working with certified center partners, and outreach and collection. Attendee evaluations rated the forum as outstanding. Planning is now underway for the next statewide forum, to be held in Northern California in 2001.
7. **Implementation of AB 75.** The Board's implementation of AB 75 is on schedule, with all statutory deadlines being met ahead of time. AB 75 requires state government agencies to reduce waste sent to landfills by 25 percent by 2002 and by 50 percent by 2004. The Board developed and approved a "Model Integrated Waste Management Plan" at its January Board meeting and began distributing the plan in February. The Board also held a series of six workshops, with attendance reaching more than 460 state agency representatives. The attendance at this series far surpassed what the Board expected, showing the State's commitment to AB 75. Since the workshop series, Board staff has continued to provide technical assistance to those entities that request it.
8. **Time Extensions for Local Diversion Programs.** Board staff conducted 11 regional workshops to solicit input regarding the implementation of SB 1066, which required the Board to develop a process allowing for time extension requests from jurisdictions in meeting the 50 percent waste diversion goal mandated by state law. Approximately 240 people attended the workshops statewide. At the workshops, Board staff presented the requirements outlined in statute and requested input from attendees on a draft extension application and optional formats. Comments received were incorporated into the final version, which was approved by the Board at its May meeting. The application is available on the Board's Web site. The Board also developed a process for reviewing the extension of the application process.
9. **Education Curriculum Updated.** The IWMB completed a three-year project in which the first edition of the Board's integrated waste management education curriculum was updated and revised. The main goals were to

make the lessons more applicable to California content standards and frameworks; provide additional lessons in priority areas of integrated waste management (IWM); improve instructional strategies; align with literature, reference texts and videos; and utilize methods in project based learning. The 2000 edition is divided into two modules: Kindergarten through third grade and fourth through sixth grade. It received technical review from public, private and nonprofit representatives and was field-tested by more than 50 teachers.

10. **State of Landfills Study.** The Board approved plans for a comprehensive, cross-media assessment of Municipal Solid Waste landfill environmental performance at its February meeting. A request for proposals (RFP) was advertised in early March. The lowest qualified bidder, GeoSyntec Consultants, was approved by the Board in May as the contractor for the \$588,000 study. Because of the cross-media approach being used for the study, a team consisting of representatives from the State Water Resources Control Board, Air Resources Board, and Waste Board was used in the development of the scope of work and RFP, and in the evaluation and scoring of the proposed bids.
11. **Implementation of Waste Profiles on the Internet.** The California Waste Stream Profiles (Profiles) database was placed on the World Wide Web in April. The Profiles is a Web-based tool that displays summary information on solid waste issues in an easy to view and up-to-date format. Currently, the Profiles display information for two areas: solid waste management issues relating to governmental jurisdictions; and waste tires. Future Profiles may include information on education, state agency recycling efforts, landfills, recycling centers, composting, transfer stations, used oil, and recycled plastics.

## Priorities for Second Half of 2000

1. **Strategic Planning.** The Board will be updating the strategic plan that was developed and adopted in 1997. In addition to addressing critical areas such as sustainability and green building issues, the Board will use Cal/EPA's recently drafted strategic vision as a guide for establishing new priorities and strategies.
2. **Facility Compliance Loan Program.** The Budget Act of 1999 authorized \$1.44 million and the 2000-01 Budget Bill appropriated an additional \$1.44 million for interest-free loans to assist owners and operators of solid waste facilities with environmental compliance. The Board approved eligibility and loan criteria for the Facility Compliance Loan Program at its January and April meetings. The loan program application period ends July 31, 2000. Board staff expects to bring project recommendations to the October Board meeting with funding approval expected by December. As required by the Budget Act, staff prepared a report on program eligibility and loan criteria for submission to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.
3. **Closed Illegal and Abandoned (CIA) Site Program.** Planning is underway for implementation of the CIA Site Enforcement Program. This program will enhance the identification, assessment, enforcement, and cleanup of closed illegal and abandoned waste disposal sites.
4. **Interactive Permit Toolbox.** Staff is developing an on-line, interactive permitting tool to assist stakeholders who are applying for or processing a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP). The "Permit Toolbox" will be user-friendly and available for access and use on the Board's Web page by local enforcement agencies (LEAs), Board staff, and other stakeholders. The linked tools and resources will be based on the skills and tasks that are necessary to successfully and efficiently process a SWFP. A working group of LEAs, Board staff and operators identified critical topics to be included in the permitting tool. The estimated completion date is March 2001 with the first tools available on-line by August 2000.
5. **Sustainable Building Project.** With the IWMB acting as lead, the Green Building Taskforce prepared a sustainable building executive order for Governor Davis' signature. The executive order would establish the expectation that environmental sustainability be a key feature of all new state buildings, as well as create an executive committee comprised of several agency secretaries, including the secretary of Cal/EPA, and the director of finance.

Staff is continuing to work closely with the Green Building Task Force members, Public Employees' Retirement System, Department Of Finance,



Department of General Services and Franchise Tax Board to "green" their upcoming building projects.

6. **Statewide Buy Recycled Campaign.** The Board is soliciting proposals to develop and conduct a statewide public awareness campaign encouraging consumers to identify and purchase products that are made with recycled resources and that are packaged in environment-friendly materials. The goals of the campaign are to link in the public's mind their actions to separate recyclable materials from the waste stream to the productive reuse of those materials in another form; to "brand" products made with recycled materials in a way that encourages manufacturers to increase the use of recyclable materials in their production; and to reward manufacturers when they do so.
7. **Waste Tire Program.** The Board will continue to work toward passage of two pieces of proposed legislation related to the waste tire program, Senate Bill 876 and Assembly Bill 603. Passage of one or both bills is anticipated by the fall, which will likely result in an increased tire disposal fee and an expanded program. Special Waste Division management will develop program plans, budget change proposals, allocation recommendations, and hire additional staff as needed. Additionally, the Board's contractor will continue to process the unburned oversized tires and expand the winterization effort at the Filbin Tire Site. Special Waste Division staff continues to meet with Cal/EPA, U.S. EPA, and other state and local agencies to characterize the site and ultimately develop a long-term remediation plan for the ash and contaminated soils.
8. **State Agency Integrated Waste Management Plans (IWMP).** AB 75 requires a 25 percent reduction in State government waste sent to landfills by January 1, 2002 and 50 percent by January 1, 2004 along with development of an IWMP explaining how this will be achieved. The Board's primary focus in regard to implementation of AB 75 will be the review and approval of the IWMPs submitted by state agencies, California State University campuses, and community colleges by the statutory deadline of January 1, 2001. In addition to approving the plans, the Board will continue to provide technical assistance to further increase California's diversion efforts, including the State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC). SABRC staff is finalizing a new SABRC manual which includes definitions of terms, reporting forms and answers to common questions to promote state agency compliance with the recycled product procurement mandates. Waste Board staff will provide training to state agencies focusing on those agencies that either do not report or underreport their purchases.
9. **Biennial Review of Jurisdictions' Progress and Time Extensions for Local Diversion Programs.** At least every two years the Board reviews the Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) and Household

Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE) of each jurisdiction's Integrated Waste Management Plan. Jurisdictions that fail to implement their SRRE and/or HHWE may be issued a compliance schedule by the Board for implementing those elements. By the end of June 2000, the Board had completed and approved 1997/98 biennial reviews for 249 of the 456 jurisdictions. Additionally, the Board will finalize the process for review of jurisdictions' applications for extensions to the December 2000 deadline for diverting 50 percent of solid waste from landfills.

10. **Integrated Education Strategy.** The IWMB and Cal/EPA have developed and implemented a nationally acclaimed education program and curriculum that can serve as a model for all of Cal/EPA. The goal for the second half of 2000 will be to develop a strategic plan to build on the Board's program and expand environmental education efforts through a unified and coordinated effort. In addition, the Board will continue with the following efforts targeted at schools:
  - Playground Act Grant applications will be reviewed and ranked and presented to the Board for award in either September or October.
  - \$150,000 provided through CDE in school garden grants will be awarded to school districts and county offices of education to support the development of school gardens. Grant recipients will participate in training workshops in the fall co-conducted by CDE and Board staff, focusing on garden construction, composting/vermicomposting, curriculum connections and resources, and contacts for free tools and supplies from local Agricultural Network representatives.
  - Education staff are partnering with information management to develop an interactive Web site targeting teachers and students. This site will use animation and interactive programs to engage K-6 students, teaching them environmental concepts through computer technology.
11. **State of Landfills Study.** This study, which is being undertaken by GeoSyntec as the contractor, is the first of its kind. It is intended to provide a complete picture of MSW landfill performance across the environmental media of air, water, and gas so that the current status of MSW landfills and environmental impacts, and regulatory requirements are fully comprehended. Because of the cross-media approach being used for the study, the Waste Board will work with staff from other Cal/EPA boards and departments.
12. **Information/Knowledge Management.** Management of information and organizational knowledge is critical to Board members, staff, and external customers. The Board has developed and maintains numerous source databases that contain program-specific information needed by staff and external stakeholders. The Board is currently developing a Knowledge

Management strategy to better organize the information and to assure that future requests from both internal and external clients are responded to quickly, providing accurate information in an easy-to-use format.

## OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT

*The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) protects and enhances public health and the environment by objective scientific evaluation of risks posed by hazardous substances.*

### Accomplishments during First Half 2000

1. **Reference Exposure Levels.** In February, OEHHA's scientific report containing Chronic Reference Exposure Levels (RELs) for 22 toxic air pollutants was adopted by the Scientific Review Panel (SRP). The report was titled, *"Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Risk Assessment Guidelines, Part III. The Determination of Chronic Reference Exposure Levels for Airborne Toxicants."* A chronic REL is an airborne level of a pollutant that would pose no significant health risk to individuals exposed at that level for an indefinite period of time. In April, the SRP adopted 16 additional RELs.
2. **Public Health Goals.** In February, OEHHA released a draft technical support document for proposed Public Health Goals (PHGs) for 12 chemicals in drinking water. The comment period ended on March 15. A PHG is the level of a pollutant in drinking water that poses no health risk to people consuming the water daily over a lifetime. PHGs are used by the Department of Health Services to set state drinking water standards. The 12 proposed PHGs are for aluminum, benzene, carbofuran, carbon tetrachloride, dichloromethane, diquat, nickel, simazine, tetrachloroethylene, thiobencarb, uranium, and vinyl chloride. Publication of the final PHGs is projected for late July, although one or more of the PHGs might not be published until later due to extensive comments that have been received.
3. **Fish Advisories.** In February, the Contra Costa County Health Services Department issued an interim fish advisory for San Pablo Reservoir based on a study conducted by OEHHA. Elevated levels of mercury were found in largemouth bass; and pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, dioxins/furans, and mercury were found in channel catfish and other species of fish in the reservoir.

In April, OEHHA held a public workshop to discuss and receive public comments on the draft report, *"Evaluation of Potential Health Effects of Eating Fish from Black Butte Reservoir (Glenn and Tehama Counties): Guidelines for Sport Fish Consumption."* The report represents an evaluation of mercury in fish from Black Butte Reservoir, and provides guidelines for limiting consumption of fish from Black Butte Reservoir, located in Glenn and Tehama Counties.

### **Proposition 65.**

- **Additions to Proposition 65 List.** In March, OEHHA added two chemicals that cause reproductive harm (pravastatin sodium and methyl chloride) to the Proposition 65 list. In June, OEHHA added three chemicals that cause cancer (chloroprene, cobalt sulfate heptahydrate, and fenoxycarb) to the list.
  - **Developmental and Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee.** In June, the Developmental and Reproductive Toxicant (DART) Identification Committee considered, and rejected, adding sodium nitrite to the Proposition 65 list of chemicals that cause reproductive harm. OEHHA staff compiled a Hazard Identification Document (HID) containing a considerable volume of scientific information on sodium nitrite for the Committee's consideration.
5. **MTBE.** In March, OEHHA finalized the report, *"Health Effects of Exposure to Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE)"*. The SRP reviewed and approved the document.
  6. **Pesticide Regulations.** In March, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) presided over four public hearings on DPR's proposed regulations regarding the use of methyl bromide to fumigate soil prior to planting agricultural crops. DPR requested comments and scientific consultation from OEHHA on the proposed soil fumigation regulations. OEHHA has shared its draft comments with DPR. During this time, OEHHA also reviewed proposed regulatory changes concerning methyl bromide structural fumigation.
  7. **Guidelines for Assessing Ecological Risks Posed by Chemicals.** In March, OEHHA released for public review the draft report, *"Guidelines for Assessing Ecological Risks Posed by Chemicals, Part I."* There will be seven parts to this document when it is completed. This introductory chapter provides an overview of the process used to determine ecological threats posed by hazardous substances.
  8. **Children's Environmental Health Symposium.** In May, OEHHA sponsored a symposium for state scientists on children's environmental health issues. Top experts on children's health from throughout the United States were brought together to give presentations on the latest scientific findings about the special susceptibility of children and infants to pollution.
  9. **Forest Fire Smoke Workshop.** In May, OEHHA sponsored a workshop on health issues stemming from wood smoke from forest fires. The workshop

provided state, local, and U.S. EPA officials with an opportunity to discuss appropriate measures of exposure, recommendations for protective action, and procedures for providing health warnings to the public during forest fires.

10. **Medical Supervisor Training.** In June, OEHHA held a medical supervisor training presentation in Kern County. The presentation is part of a program of medical education to alert physicians and other health care professionals to the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and reporting of pesticide poisoning. OEHHA has received requests for future presentations.
11. **Asbestos.** OEHHA staff attended public meetings to provide information to interested parties on the toxicity and medical implications of naturally occurring asbestos in El Dorado County. OEHHA is providing scientific support to the Air Resources Board, which is developing rules to reduce human exposure to naturally occurring asbestos.

## Priorities for Second Half of 2000

### 1. **Proposition 65.**

- **“Authoritative Body” Listings.** OEHHA will consider the listing of as many as 19 chemicals under the “authoritative body” mechanism. Proposition 65 allows for the listing of chemicals that are identified as causing cancer or reproductive harm by a scientific body considered to be authoritative by the state.
- **“Formally Required to be Labeled” Listings.** OEHHA will consider the listing of as many as 16 chemicals under the “formally required to be labeled or identified” mechanism. Proposition 65 allows for the listing of chemicals that are required by a state or federal agency to be labeled or identified as causing cancer or reproductive harm.
- **Future Candidates for the Carcinogen Identification Committee Consideration.** The Carcinogen Identification Committee (CIC) will consider the listing of three chemicals to the Proposition 65 list of chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer. The three chemicals are hexachlorobutadiene, 4-methylquinoline, and MX (3-chloro-4-(dichloromethyl)-5-hydroxy-2(5H)-furanone).
- **Future Candidates for the Developmental and Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee Consideration.** The DART Identification Committee will consider the listing of five chemicals to the Proposition 65 list of chemicals known to the State of California to cause birth defects or reproductive harm. The five chemicals are triphenytin hydroxide, metribuzin, chloroform, manganese, and phenol.
- **Development of Safe Harbor Levels.** OEHHA will begin a multi-year effort to develop “safe harbor” levels for various chemicals on the Proposition 65 list. A safe harbor level is the level of exposure to a chemical that does not pose a significant risk of cancer or reproductive harm, as defined by Proposition 65. The safe harbor numbers will be enacted in regulation and will help determine whether businesses need to provide Proposition 65 warnings.

- ### 2. **Proposition 65 Warnings.**
- In February, OEHHA received from the Health Industry Manufacturers Association a petition to develop regulations on how Proposition 65 warnings are to be issued for medical devices. OEHHA will hold a public workshop and consider the development of draft regulations.

3. **California's Environmental Emerging Challenges.** OEHHA staff will finalize a report on future environmental challenges that California may face. The report summarizes ideas collected from several workshops and staff forums conducted in late 1999 and early 2000.
4. **Registered Environmental Assessor (REA) I/II Program.** OEHHA will continue the development of enhancements to the REA Web site and database. These changes will enable applicants to apply for REA registration via the Internet and to update address and Web address information on line. In addition, parties interested in the utilization of an REA will have the capability of using their own search parameters to create a list of REAs by geographic area, area code, area of expertise or any combination of these factors. These enhancements will result in savings of staff and resources by moving toward paperless registration and inquiry processes.
5. **Fish Advisories.** OEHHA will finalize its draft reports on the presence of mercury in fish in the Black Butte Reservoir in Glenn and Tehama counties and Lake Pillsbury in Lake County. OEHHA will prepare and issue fish advisories as appropriate for those lakes.
6. **Physician Pesticide Training.** OEHHA will continue training physicians in the reporting, recognition and management of pesticide illness as well as continuing medical supervisor training.
7. **Air Toxics Hot Spots.** In March, OEHHA released a revised draft document, *"Air Toxics Hot Spots Risk Assessment Guidelines Part IV: Exposure Assessment and Stochastic Analysis Technical Support Document"* for public and SRP review. This document addresses the risk assessment of airborne pollutants from stationary sources. The document proposes that simple risk assessment approaches be used first and that more complicated stochastic methods should only be employed when necessary. This document is the fourth part of a five-part set of guidelines being developed for use by the local air pollution control districts and will be considered for adoption by the SRP at its July meeting.
8. **Public Health Goals.** Work is progressing on the development of more than a dozen new PHGs for drinking-water contaminants for the fourth year of the PHG program. Posting of drafts on the OEHHA Web site for public comment is planned for October or November, as in previous years. Peer reviewers will be solicited through the University of California.



9. **Spinosad.** OEHHA will be hiring staff and proceeding with the initial phases of a three-year project to research and conduct a risk assessment on the use of the new active ingredient spinosad, which is under consideration as an alternative to malathion for urban eradication of agricultural pests such as the Medfly.
10. **Multi-Media Risk Assessment.** OEHHA will finalize the Multi-Media Risk Assessment Phase I report, *“Practices, Needs and Methodologies for Human Exposure Assessment at Cal/EPA”*. The report will contain results of a survey on current uses of human exposure assessment in programs of Cal/EPA boards and departments. It will also contain summaries of selected resource documents on topics related to exposure assessment.
11. **Environmental Indicators.** OEHHA will be the lead agency for the development of environmental indicators that will provide an improved understanding of the overall condition of the environment. Environmental indicators also will be used to develop the state’s environmental objectives and evaluate the overall progress and effectiveness of programs managed by the boards and departments within Cal/EPA and the Resources Agency.

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

*The mission of the State Water Resources Control Board is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.*

### Accomplishments during First Half of 2000

1. **Bay-Delta Program.** The SWRCB adopted Order WR 2000-02 in March, denying petitions for reconsideration of Decision 1641, which approved the San Joaquin River Agreement, the Mokelumne River Agreement and the joint use of the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project points of diversion in the Delta. It also established responsibility for meeting salinity objectives in the south Delta and Suisun Marsh. The responsibility of Sacramento Basin water right holders to meet Bay-Delta objectives is being considered in Phase 8. Phase 8 of the Bay-Delta hearings began in April when the SWRCB heard evidence regarding a proposed settlement agreement between the water users on the Bear River and the Department of Water Resources.
2. **Inland Surface Waters/Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Implementation Policy.** The SWRCB approved the supporting Functional Equivalent Document and adopted the Policy in March. The Policy establishes implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the U.S. EPA in the 1992 National Toxics Rule and the May 18 California Toxics Rule. The Policy applies to Regional Boards issuing, reissuing, and modifying federal wastewater discharge (NPDES) permits.
3. **Guidelines for MTBE Cleanup.** Final draft guidelines for MTBE investigation and cleanup, prepared pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order D-5-99 on MTBE, were presented at the SWRCB's March 1 public workshop. The guidelines provide a framework for prioritizing MTBE release cases for both investigation and cleanup. The Guidelines were issued in draft form to allow local agencies and Regional Water Boards to immediately begin to prioritize MTBE cases. A total of six statewide staff workshops are being held on the Guidelines.
4. **Yuba River.** The SWRCB held a supplemental hearing to receive new information on lower Yuba River flow and water use issues. This supplemental hearing completed a total of 27 days of hearing the matter.

5. **Water Rights Workshops.** The SWRCB held four workshops on key water rights issues including seawater intrusion in the Salinas and Pajaro valleys, Carmel River fishery and water supply issues, discussions of legal and scientific issues regarding subterranean streams, and various issues regarding water transfers.
6. **Imperial Irrigation District/San Diego County Water Authority.** Fourteen protests to the proposed water transfer between the two water districts were received. Six protests were accepted and additional information was requested from the remaining protestants. The SWRCB distributed a workplan in April, describing the efforts needed to review the water transfer.
7. **Water Quality Certification Program.** The SWRCB adopted new regulations governing the state's Water Quality Certification Program (authorized through section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act) in February 2000. These regulations became effective on June 24.
8. **Statewide Biosolids Waste Discharge Requirements.** The final environmental impact report associated with the adoption of general waste discharge requirements for the application of biosolids to land was circulated for comments in June. Adoption of requirements is expected by October.
9. **Proposition 13 Implementation.** The SWRCB adopted Proposition 13 (2000 Water Bond) implementation procedures at the June Board workshop. Other measures taken to assure early use of Proposition 13 funds include the development of (1) tentative agreements and draft contracts with parties specified to receive funds and (2) Memoranda of Understanding for two specified Watershed Programs.
10. **Comprehensive Ambient Surface Water Monitoring Program.** The SWRCB convened a 24 member public advisory group to evaluate the structure and effectiveness of the Board's monitoring and assessment programs. Discussions have covered the SWRCB's proposed comprehensive ambient surface water monitoring program, listing of impaired water bodies pursuant to section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) activities.

11. **Coordinated Pesticide Monitoring Related to the Development of TMDLs.** Pesticide monitoring projects were prioritized based on TMDL priorities for the Sacramento River watershed, Feather River watershed, the Lower San Joaquin River Basin, Chollas Creek in San Diego County, and several urban watersheds. Most of the earmarked pesticide monitoring funds were encumbered.
12. **Underground Tank Data Systems.** The first phase of the Geographic Environmental Information Management System (GEIMS) database and its geographic information system interface called GeoTracker was implemented. All interested parties can now access the database on the Internet and obtain information on leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs) and public water supply wells including a display of the location of LUSTs and public water supply wells anywhere in the state.
13. **Senate Bill 709 Implementation.** Guidance and training was provided to the Regional Water Boards on Senate Bill 709, which became effective January 1. SB 709 requires mandatory minimum penalties for certain violations of the Water Code.
14. **SWRCB Enforcement Policy and Guidance Update.** The Enforcement Order Review Panel expanded the scope of the update of the Enforcement Policy and Guidance. Final recommendations from the panel are expected in July.
15. **California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program.** In June, California became the first state to satisfy requirements of both the Clean Water Act (section 319 (h) Nonpoint Source) and the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (coastal Nonpoint Source). Additionally, the SWRCB and California Coastal Commission (CCC) convened the first meeting of the Interagency Coordinating Council (IACC). The IACC is composed of representatives from each of the agencies/departments in Cal/EPA, the California Resources Agency, the Department of Food and Agriculture, Department of Health Services, and the Department of Transportation.

## Priorities for Second Half of 2000

1. **Bay-Delta Program.** The SWRCB will continue Phase 8 of the Bay-Delta Water Rights Hearing in August. The responsibility of water right holders in the Sacramento Basin to meet Bay-Delta flow requirements will be considered in Phase 8. The Phase 8 hearing is scheduled over 26 days in August, September, and October. A water right decision is anticipated by July 2001. A decision on the proposed settlement agreement on the Bear River is scheduled for August.
2. **NPDES Storm Water Program.** SWRCB staff will draft and release for review a proposed policy to implement Phase II of the NPDES Storm Water Program. Phase II will affect municipal separate storm sewer systems serving a population of less than 100,000 persons, state and federal facilities in areas subject to municipal storm water permits, and construction activities resulting in a land disturbance of between one and five acres.
3. **Beach Closure Remediation Activities:** The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) staff will pursue several areas of activity to address beach contamination:
  - The State Water Board, in cooperation with local agencies, will continue development and application of the beach closure warnings database. The standardized approach to collecting information on the sources of contamination has identified the contribution of stormwater to beach contamination. In addition, for the first time, the data collected by the SWRCB is compiled and forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and National Resource Defense Council, which eliminated additional work by the counties to fill out duplicative surveys of the same information for multiple agencies. The Water Board intends to work closely with local water agencies to mitigate beach contamination problems.
  - State Water Board staff will continue a lead role in the Beach Water Quality Workgroup (Workgroup), an ad hoc committee composed of groups responsible for the protection and reporting of beach water quality in Southern California. In the past year, the Workgroup has led the effort of providing guidelines to counties for a consistent approach of issuing postings for closures and reopening of closed beaches. The Workgroup is developing a model monitoring program for bacteria in coastal waters. The model integrates stormwater agencies with monitoring by sewage treatment plants and environmental health agencies to provide better coverage of the coastal waters.

- The State Water Board is developing source investigation protocols for beaches where storm drains frequently contaminate beaches. These protocols will provide guidance for conducting investigations of the location and biological origins of sources of bacteriological contamination.
  - The State and Regional Water Boards will increase enforcement actions against sewage treatment agencies that spill sewage into surface waters.
  - The State and Regional Water Boards will apply a new spill tracking system that will provide the ability to regularly report on progress in reducing spills and identify agencies and geographic areas with chronic spill problems.
4. **MTBE.** The SWRCB, Regional Water Boards, and local agencies will prioritize MTBE release sites in accordance with the framework proposed in the draft Guidelines for the Investigation and Cleanup of MTBE. MTBE vulnerability maps will be made available on the Internet.
  5. **Underground Storage Tank (UST) Data Systems.** The SWRCB will identify locations of approximately 20,000 operating underground storage tank facilities and incorporate these into GEIMS/GeoTracker Internet based database, which is already loaded with all leaking sites.
  6. **UST Regulations.** The SWRCB will consider adoption of regulations requiring enhanced leak detection for USTs with a single-walled component. As proposed, USTs located within 1000 feet of a public water supply well would be required to implement this enhanced monitoring by January 2001.
  7. **Amendment of the California Ocean Plan.** The SWRCB will consider adoption of six proposed amendments to the California Ocean Plan in October. The six amendments involve (1) regulation of acute toxicity in ocean discharges, (2) revision of certain chemical water quality objectives for the protection of human health, (3) a new means of determining compliance with chemical water quality objectives, (4) a mechanism for special water quality protection for near coastal waters, (5) revision of the Ocean Plan format, and (6) administrative changes to the Ocean Plan.
  8. **Imperial Irrigation District (IID)/San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA).** The SWRCB will consider a workplan for the IID/SDCWA water transfer at a workshop in July. If IID is unable to resolve protests filed against

its petition to transfer water to SDCWA, the SWRCB will schedule a hearing on the water transfer.

9. **Yuba River.** The SWRCB will release a draft decision on the Yuba River dealing with (1) the condition of the fishery resources and other public trust resources of the lower Yuba River, (2) the effects the Yuba River Development Project has on these resources, and (3) whether water right permits and licenses for the project should be revised to include terms to protect these resources. The decision will be considered for adoption in the first half of 2001.
10. **Funding Assistance.**
  - **Proposition 13 Funds.** The SWRCB will continue to expedite Proposition 13 (2000 Water Bond) funding by (1) considering priority lists for the Small Communities Grant and Water Recycling Financial Assistance Programs, (2) executing a Memorandum of Understanding for the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watershed Program, (3) executing contracts for the Southern California Integrated Watershed Program, the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watershed Program and projects specified in the Watershed and Coastal Nonpoint Source Programs. and (4) initiating funding for prioritized projects within the Watershed, Coastal Nonpoint Source and Nonpoint Source Programs. As appropriate, Regional Water Boards will encourage parties to make applications for funds.
  - **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Policy.** A policy for the administration of SRF loan funding for “expanded use projects” will be considered at a July SWRCB Workshop.
11. **SWRCB Enforcement Policy and Guidance Update.** A draft of the revised Enforcement Policy and Guidance will be presented at staff workshops and a State Board workshop, in preparation for policy adoption in early 2001.
12. **Thermal Plan Revision.** The SWRCB will review and consider amending the Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (Thermal Plan), last amended in 1975.
13. **Comprehensive Monitoring.**

- **Ambient Surface Water Monitoring Program.** The SWRCB will submit a legislatively mandated report to the Legislature by November 30 regarding current surface water quality monitoring programs.
  - **Coastal Water Quality Monitoring Plan.** SWRCB staff will finalize the Comprehensive Coastal Water Quality Monitoring Plan by December for submittal to the Legislature by January 1, 2001.
14. **Beach Closures - Source Investigation Protocols.** The SWRCB with the assistance of the Department of Health Services will develop protocols for investigating sources of pathogens causing beach closures.
  15. **California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program.** An update of the five-year NPS implementation plans will be distributed for public review.
  16. **San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Drainage.** The SWRCB is cooperating with Westlands Water District in an investigation of alternative solutions to the drainage problems on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. A contract between Westlands and SWRCB for reimbursement of SWRCB costs is expected to be in place in July. A consultant contract for planning studies and environmental scoping activities is expected to be in place in early August.
  17. **Inland Surface Waters/Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Implementation Policy.** Phase 2 activities to support various Policy provisions will be initiated. A draft mixing zone guidance document will be prepared, peer reviewed and released for public review in the fall. A contract will be executed to assess current water quality standards pertaining to effluent-dependent water bodies.
  18. **Water Rights Workshops and Workgroups.**
    - **Subterranean Streams and Water Transfers.** The SWRCB will convene two workgroups for purposes of making recommendations on issues associated with subterranean streams and water transfers.
    - **Expediting the Water Right Process.** The SWRCB will hold a workshop to gather information and review alternatives to expedite the water right process.
  19. **Salinas Valley Seawater Intrusion.** The SWRCB will execute a contract to provide funds for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to



develop an Environmental Impact Statement and alternative solutions to seawater intrusion problems in the Salinas Valley.

20. **SWRCB/RWQCB Strategic Plan.** Upon completion of the Cal/EPA strategic vision, the SWRCB will work with the Regional Boards and stakeholders to update its 1997 Plan.
21. **Needs Analysis.** The SWRCB will submit a report to the Legislature by January 2001 on the legislatively mandated Needs Analysis of the Core Regulatory Program. The analysis will cover permitting, monitoring, inspection, and enforcement needs associated with point source dischargers, including storm water.

## REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

*The Regional Water Quality Control Boards work with the State Water Resources Control Board to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.*

### Accomplishments during First Half of 2000

#### 1. **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL).**

- The **North Coast Regional Board** prepared draft technical support documents for temperature and sediment TMDLs in the Navarro River. Scoping meetings were held for a proposed region-wide sediment control amendment to the basin plan.
- The **San Francisco Bay Regional Board** forwarded to U.S. EPA two TMDL reports covering Bay-wide TMDLs for mercury and invasive species. Implementation plans are being developed.
- The **Central Valley Regional Board** initiated two CALFED funded projects related to TMDLs in the Delta; an \$800,000 project to determine the principal sources of oxygen depleting substances to the San Joaquin River; and a \$3.8 million project to develop information on mercury sources and cycling.
- **San Diego Regional Board** staff forwarded to U.S. EPA a diazinon TMDL for Chollas Creek and a nutrient TMDL for Rainbow Creek.
- **Santa Ana Regional Board** staff started work on a toxic substances TMDL for Newport Bay and its watershed. This is one of the first urban toxic substances TMDLs to be developed in the country. Meetings with stakeholders have targeted early action on diazinon and chlorpyrifos. Adoption of the TMDL is expected in 2001.
- **Colorado River Basin Regional Board** staff drafted an Alamo River Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL in May. Adoption of the TMDL is scheduled for November.
- **Lahontan Region Board** staff submitted a technical report to U.S. EPA to justify removal of Pine Creek in Lassen County from the Section 303(d) list and circulated draft Basin Plan amendments to facilitate delisting nine naturally impaired waters.

## 2. **Cleanups and Restoration Projects.**

- **Unocal, Avila Beach.** Under requirements from the Central Coast Regional Board, Unocal completed the cleanup of Avila Beach, removing petroleum contamination that leaked from pipelines. Unocal will be rebuilding portions of the town during the second half of 2000.
- **Leviathan Mine.** The Lahontan Regional Board was successful in preventing the overflow of acid mine drainage (AMD) into surface waters this past spring. Work continues with pilot project tests and executing contracts for AMD treatment.
- **Bay Area Groundwater Basin Plan Amendments.** The San Francisco Bay Regional Board adopted Basin Plan amendments that will assist the Board and responsible parties in prioritizing and addressing groundwater cleanups and protection actions. Issues addressed include the application of drinking water standards at groundwater cleanups and revised groundwater basin definitions.
- **San Diego Bay Toxic Hot Spots.** San Diego Regional Board staff identified 15 existing and five proposed waste discharge requirements (WDRs) associated with five toxic hot spots identified under the Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program Consolidated Toxic Hot Spot Cleanup Plan. WDRs have been prioritized for review and will be revised as necessary to prevent further pollution of the hot spots.
- **Guadalupe Oilfield.** In response to the Central Coast Regional Board's order to clean up spilled petroleum products, Unocal completed an excavation of approximately 100,000 cubic yards.
- **San Gabriel Valley Cleanup Efforts.** The Los Angeles Regional Board affirmed eight cleanup and abatement orders issued in 1999 to facilities in the Baldwin Park Operable Unit. Responsible parties are required to complete soil assessment, soil cleanup (if warranted), groundwater monitoring, and meet with water purveyors to discuss water supply issues.
- **Dioxins in San Francisco Bay.** The San Francisco Bay Regional Board conducted its third major sampling event for dioxins in fish in the spring of 2000 (previous samplings in 1994 and 1997). The Board also addressed dioxin issues in the permits adopted.

- **Geographic Information System (GIS).** The Los Angeles Regional Boards implemented a new prioritization scheme to focus efforts on underground storage tank (UST) sites that are closest to drinking water supply wells and surface water bodies. GIS site maps have been created for active UST cases showing proximity to wells, waters, recharge areas, and other UST sites.
- **Salton Sea Restoration.** Colorado River Basin Regional Board staff provided comments on the report entitled “Initial Study/Environmental Assessment Enhanced Evaporation Systems Pilot/Demonstration Project, Imperial County, California” issued by the Salton Sea Authority and the Bureau of Reclamation. The project, expected to commence in October, involves the testing of three evaporation systems for a period of approximately two years.

### 3. **MTBE.**

- **San Francisco Bay Regional Board** staff updated MTBE data in the fuel UST database and issued about 100 formal requests for MTBE data. GIS-based maps showing high-priority MTBE sites were provided to local agencies. Staff also conducted briefing sessions for local implementing agencies and participated in SWRCB briefing sessions for local oversight programs on implementation of the draft guidelines for MTBE cleanup.
- **City of Santa Monica, Arcadia Wellfield.** Los Angeles Regional Board staff completed investigations of MTBE contaminant pathways. The Production Aquifer Remediation System (PARS), using activated carbon, was constructed and pumping from production well Arcadia #5 started on May 17.
- **Cambria Water Supplies.** The Central Coast Regional Board issued an enforcement order requiring Chevron to develop an alternative water supply for Cambria during the MTBE cleanup.
- **South Lake Tahoe.** The Lahontan Regional Board took over cleanup operations at the Tahoe Tom’s gas station when the owner stopped cleanup work because the cost had exceeded the \$1 million maximum limit allowed under the UST Cleanup Fund. MTBE threatens three municipal and three smaller wells.

4. **Storm Water/Urban Runoff.**

- **Huntington Beach Bacterial Investigations.** Orange County and a number of cities in Orange County completed the first phase of the “Coastal Runoff Impact Study” in response to an order by the executive officer of the Santa Ana Regional Board. The study concluded that the Talbert Marsh is one of the sources of near-shore bacterial contamination. Additional studies are being conducted.
- **Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP).** In January, the Los Angeles Regional Board adopted a SUSMP covering nine categories of development or redevelopment projects. The 86 municipal storm water permittees in Los Angeles County will have six months to make modifications to their ordinances and 30 days thereafter to implement the requirements. The SWRCB conducted hearings in June on petitions received on the SUSMP.
- **Storm Water Information/Educational Workshops.** San Diego Regional Board staff conducted eight workshops on best management practices for construction sites and new developments for 700 attendees.

5. **Select Permit Issues.**

- The **San Francisco Bay Regional Board** adopted eight NPDES permits, five of which for the first time implemented US EPA guidelines for permitting discharges to impaired water bodies that do not have approved TMDLs. Additionally, a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for the use of shredded tires for road base construction was adopted and the executive officer approved Dublin-San Ramon Services District’s recycling proposal of injecting highly treated wastewater to groundwater, a source of drinking water supplies.
- The **San Diego Regional Board** completed the permitting process for the U.S. Navy Milcon Project P-700A, which provides berthing facilities for three Nimitz-class aircraft carriers in San Diego Bay. Additionally, the Regional Board reissued 25 expired NPDES permits.

6. **Select Compliance/Enforcement Issues.**

- **Timber Harvest Activities:** The North Coast Regional Board increased timber harvest enforcement activities and associated

preharvest, active and post-harvest inspections on North Coast timberlands.

The following inspections and review meetings were achieved:

- 75 inspections on lands of the Pacific Lumber Company
  - 189 inspections on other lands
  - 6 inspections on lands of the U.S. Forest Service
  - 112 timber harvest review team meetings
- 
- The **Santa Ana Regional Board** issued 17 Administrative Civil Liability Complaints (ACL) for a total of \$512,850. The Board was a party to two multi-agency enforcement settlement agreements totaling \$2.04 million. Additionally, the Board increased follow-up on provisions of the Regional Board's General NPDES Permit for dairies by increasing the size of dairy inspection staff from two to six.
  - The **San Diego Regional Board** issued four ACLs for a total of \$4.1 million. These included penalties assessed against the cities of San Diego and Oceanside for sewage spills.
  - The **Central Coast Regional Board** negotiated a tentative settlement agreement with PG&E regarding alleged permit violations (thermal effects and entrainment issues) of the Diablo Nuclear Plant. A hearing has been scheduled for October 27. Additionally, a \$75,000 ACL was issued to the City of Pacific Grove for a 70,000 gallon discharge of raw sewage to the Pacific Ocean.
  - The **Los Angeles Regional Board** issued eight enforcement orders and eight ACLs for a total of \$860,000.

## Priorities for Second Half of 2000

### 1. **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs).**

- The **North Coast Regional Board** plans to consider the TMDL and implementation plan for Redwood Creek in Humboldt County at its September meeting. In addition, staff will finalize the technical support documents for the temperature and sediment TMDLs for the Navarro River for submittal to the U.S. EPA.
- The **Los Angeles Regional Board** will consider adoption of three TMDLs: chlorides in Calleguas Creek, trash and litter in the Los Angeles River, and trash and litter in Ballona Creek.
- The **Central Coast Regional Board** will consider adoption of the San Lorenzo nutrient TMDL in September.
- The **Lahontan Regional Board** will draft Basin Plan amendments to fulfill commitments for TMDLs for Heavenly Valley Creek and Indian Creek Reservoir.

### 2. **Cleanups and Restoration Projects.**

- **Leviathan Mine.** The Lahontan Regional Board, under an agreement with U.S. EPA, will treat over 10 million gallons of acid mine drainage, optimize the treatment system, revegetate approximately 5 acres and continue with ongoing site maintenance and water quality monitoring.
- **Risk-Based Screening Levels For Polluted Sites.** San Francisco Bay Regional Board staff has prepared a draft technical reference document that simplifies its oversight of smaller cleanups. The document presents conservative, risk-based screening levels for over 100 hazardous substances commonly found in polluted soil and groundwater. Board staff will pilot test the document by encouraging preliminary use of the document at a manageable number of sites.
- **San Gabriel Valley Cleanup.** The Los Angeles Regional Board will issue seven cleanup and abatement orders for soil assessment and cleanups in the Baldwin Park area. This work is closely coordinated with U.S. EPA efforts conducted under the provisions of the federal Superfund law.

- **San Diego Bay.** The San Diego Regional Board will determine final cleanup levels for two San Diego Bay shipyards, Southwest Marine and National Steel and Shipbuilding Company. In November the San Diego Regional Board will submit cleanup plans for four moderate-priority toxic hot spots in San Diego Bay identified under the Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program Consolidated Toxic Hot Spot Cleanup Plan.

### 3. **MTBE.**

- **City of Santa Monica, Arcadia Wellfield.** The Production Aquifer Remediation System (PARS) will undergo a demonstration test and, if approved for operation by the State Department of Health Services, treated water from Arcadia Wellfield will be routed to the Santa Monica treatment plant for blending with water purchased from the Metropolitan Water District for municipal water supply.
- **South Lake Tahoe.** The Lahontan Regional Board will continue corrective actions at the Meyers Beacon gas station using EAR Account funds. The Regional Board plans to complete the investigation of the plume and to deploy a containment plan.

### 4. **Storm Water/Urban Runoff.**

- **Santa Ana Region Bacterial Investigations.** A number of investigations of the bacterial problems at Huntington Beach and the Upper Santa Ana River are expected to be completed. Municipalities discharging urban runoff into these impacted waterbodies are under orders by the Regional Board to conduct studies to identify and control the sources of bacterial pollution.
- **Flooding of Dairy Areas.** The counties of Riverside and San Bernardino and the cities upstream of the Chino-Corona dairy preserve area of the Santa Ana Region will be ordered to investigate the flooding of dairies due to uncontrolled runoff. Urban runoff from the upstream areas routinely floods the dairies during periods of rainfall.



5. **Basin Plan Amendments.**

- **Salinity Standards on San Joaquin River.** Three workshops will be held from mid June through late August to amend the Central Valley Region Basin Plan. Water quality objectives will be established along with an implementation plan for controlling salt inputs to the river. New requirements could apply to a number of water and wastewater agencies.
- **Santa Ana Region.** The Santa Ana Regional Board will consider major revisions of water quality objectives and groundwater basin boundaries. These revisions will be proposed in response to a \$4 million watershed-wide stakeholder effort to validate basin plan objectives and groundwater basin boundaries that were developed during the early 1970's.
- **Los Angeles Region.** The Los Angeles Regional Board will consider Basin Plan amendments that allow interim limits to be included in NPDES permits, modification of bacteria objectives to achieve consistency with the beach closure requirements of AB 411, and U.S. EPA and chloride objectives for the Santa Clara River

6. **Select Permit Issues.**

- The **Central Valley Regional Board** will consider revisions of the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility NPDES permit in August. Several new issues are involved, including definition of mixing zones, acute toxicity within the mixing zone, protection of benthic organisms, discharges of pollutants into water quality-limited segments, and thermal impacts on aquatic life.
- The **San Diego Regional Board** will reissue the municipal storm water permit for San Diego County and a new permit for marinas.
- The **Los Angeles Regional Board** plans to develop a new general permit for the drainage of artificial lakes and to conduct a review of existing general permits to determine necessary revisions.

7. **International Border Issues.** Colorado River Basin Regional Board staff will continue to participate in monthly binational observation tours of the New River and Mexicali area.

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

*The mission of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) is to restore, protect and enhance the environment to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality. Cal/EPA's vision is of a California that enjoys a clean, healthy, sustainable environment that enhances the quality of life for current and future generations, and protects our diverse natural resources.*

### Accomplishments during First Half of 2000

1. **Strategic Vision.** Cal/EPA embarked on a comprehensive strategic planning process that updated the vision, mission, and goals of the Agency. The Office of the Secretary worked closely with Cal/EPA boards and departments, the Resources Agency, and representatives of environmental and business organizations, including the California Environmental Dialogue (CED), to update the plan. Cal/EPA has produced a "strategic vision" that sets forth the direction for California's environmental programs and will serve as the basis for strategic plans being prepared by Cal/EPA boards and departments. The strategic plans will indicate how to achieve statewide environmental performance goals. Measuring and reporting progress toward those goals is crucial. Thus, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment is developing environmental indicators that will provide an improved understanding of the overall condition of the environment to program managers, the public, the regulated community, and other stakeholders.
2. **CalFed.** Secretary Winston Hickox represented Cal/EPA in the high-level policy discussions that led to the signing of "California's Water Future: A Framework for Action," a historic agreement between the State of California and the federal government focusing on the CalFed Bay-Delta program. The agreement, announced by Governor Gray Davis and U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, pledges to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem, improve water quality, enhance water supply reliability and assure long-term stability for agricultural, urban and environmental uses. The plan's highlights include investing \$800 million of state and federal money over the next seven years in water quality programs to continuously improve Delta water quality for all users.
3. **Environmental Management Systems Project.** State law created the Cal/EPA EMS Project in 1999 to determine if the use of environmental management systems can enhance protection of public health and the environment and produce better public information about environmental performance than the existing regulatory model.

In fulfillment of the legislative requirement for a public hearing, Cal/EPA requested public comment during May through June. After public hearings were held in May, Cal/EPA announced selection of the pilot projects as proposed and adopted the pilot selection criteria, model pilot project work plan, and monitoring and evaluation parameters. The selected pilots were:

- Anheuser-Busch in Fairfield
- Wastewater facilities (Central Marin Sanitation Agency in San Rafael and San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department, Operation and Maintenance Division)
- IBM Corporation in San Jose
- Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company (formerly the Skunk Works) in Palmdale
- Metal finishing companies (Artistic Plating in Anaheim and Gene's Plating in Los Angeles)
- Pentel of America, Ltd. in Torrance
- Vineyards and wineries (Benziger Family Winery and Davis Bynum Winery in Sonoma County)

4. **Urban Cleanup Initiative (Brownfields).** There are thousands of idle or under-utilized sites in California where redevelopment is stymied because of real or perceived environmental contamination. To address this serious problem, the Office of the Secretary successfully submitted the governor's state budget proposal to leverage private investment capital through strategic loans for site characterization and cleanup. \$85 million was approved in the 2000-01 budget to provide low-interest loans for inner city and other urban properties (brownfields). Cleanup of brownfields produces numerous benefits: reduced public health and environmental risks, decreased traffic congestion, constrained urban sprawl, construction of affordable inner-city housing, creation of jobs, and an expansion of inner city tax bases.

5. **Border Environmental Affairs.**

- **Cal/EPA Board Affairs Unit.** A Border Affairs Unit (BAU) was created within the Office of Secretary to act as the central point of contact on environmental issues along the California-Baja California border. The BAU will initiate, and coordinate local, state and federal, bilateral and multilateral efforts to address the unique set of environmental challenges that characterize the border region.

Additionally, the BAU participates in and lends support for the annual Border Governors Conference, the US-Mexico Ten States Retreat and U.S. EPA's Border XXI initiatives.

- **Border Governors Conference.** The Office of the Secretary participated in the XVIII Border Governors Conference, which took place in June, in Sacramento. The outcomes of the environmental work table included joint declarations urging the President of the United States and Congress to restore funding to \$100 million annually for border infrastructure projects, request that both federal governments provide adequate funding for the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission and encourage appropriate federal and state agencies to protect shared water resources by promoting conservation policies. Additionally, the Office of the Secretary provided essential logistical support for the conference.
- **Strategic Border Environmental Plan.** Consistent with its responsibility to act as the central point of contact on border issues, Cal/EPA's Border Affairs Unit (BAU) has initiated development of a state-to-state strategic plan for California and Baja California. This plan will provide a framework for participation and cooperation to address the unique environmental challenges in the shared border region. The BAU is developing the strategic plan in coordination with the Border Environmental Program (BEP)—a collaborative group of California state agencies, Baja California and tribal nations along the border region—to ensure a comprehensive effort. Moreover, all Cal/EPA boards, departments and offices participate in the BEP to ensure a multimedia effort on all environmental issues.

## 6. **Enforcement.**

- **Cross-Media Training.** A multiagency task force developed curriculum for a new 2-week Cal/EPA inspector training class. The training will cover many basic investigation and inspection subjects including cross-media issues.
- **Cross-Media Investigations.** Cal/EPA made its first enforcement referral to the Attorney's General's Office pursuant to the authority granted by Government Code section 12812.2. The joint referral was made with the State Water Resources Control Board regarding an underground storage tank investigation. The case is continuing as a joint investigation of Cal/EPA, the Air Resources Board, the State and Regional Water Boards and local Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs).

- **Cross-Media Enforcement Unit.** The Office of the Secretary reached agreement with the Air Resources Board to temporarily designate staff from the ARB to act as Cal/EPA's cross-media enforcement unit and to develop the necessary budget proposals to establish a separate agency unit in the near future.
7. **Military Base Remediation and Reuse.** The Office of the Secretary continues to work closely with the Department of Toxic Substance Control and the Water Resources Control Board to review proposals to clean up contamination at closed military bases throughout California for reuse by local communities. Some significant results include the acceptance by the governor of two early transfers of portions of the Alameda Naval Air Station and the Oakland Fleet Industrial Supply Center to the City of Alameda and the Port of Oakland, respectively. In addition, several significant improvements in reporting, review, and oversight procedures have accelerated and simplified cleanup review efforts at bases such as the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Treasure Island, Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard, Ft. Ord, and Tustin Naval Air Station.
  8. **Multi-State Working Group (MSWG) on Environmental Management Systems.** Cal/EPA was the organizer of the MSWG's annual conference on "Environmental Management Systems, Regulatory Innovation and Sustainability" held in San Diego in June. Over 250 participants from nine countries representing government, business, public interest groups and academia heard 17 sessions over a two-day period featuring 56 speakers. Secretary Hickox delivered the opening session speech describing the upcoming year's plans for the Cal/EPA Innovation Initiative. Dr. Robert Stephens, Assistant Secretary for EMSs and Sustainability, in his role as chair of MSWG, delivered the closing session remarks looking forward to new initiatives in these areas in California, the U.S., and the rest of the world. Session topics included many aspects and examples of environmental management systems and their impact on the broader issue of sustainability. Documents related to the event are available on the Web at <http://www.mswg.org>.
  9. **Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs).** The Office of the Secretary conducted a two-day strategic planning meeting in March for the CUPA program. Participants included representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, State Office of Emergency Services, State Fire Marshal and representatives of all 70 of the CUPAs in the Unified Program. As a result of the meeting, three key strategic objectives were identified: development of statewide enforcement procedures, consolidation of electronic information collection from CUPAs, and improvement of the CUPA program review process.

10. **New Cal/EPA Building.** In early 2000, the architect for the new Cal/EPA building received the Engineering Excellence award for energy efficient design from California Construction Link, a construction trade magazine. In June, more than 700 solar panels were installed at the new building, generating enough electricity to serve 10 average-size homes. It is the largest solar installation in a commercial high-rise building in California, if not the U.S. A special group was established within Cal/EPA's boards and departments called the Relocation Team to assist employees with the move and transition into the new building.
11. **New Cal/EPA Intranet Site.** A new intranet, or internal Web site, called EPANet was launched in May to provide up-to-date information to Cal/EPA employees about issues related to the move into the new Cal/EPA building that begins in August. EPANet provides comprehensive, detailed information to Cal/EPA employees on topics such as moving schedules, parking and transportation information, special building features, and general information related to the transition into the new building. Once the move into the new building is completed, EPANet will be expanded to include a wide variety of information for Cal/EPA staff such as an employee directory, news and information of interest to employees, meeting and conference room schedules, personnel information and forms, a calendar of events, and more. The EPANet project is spearheaded by Cal/EPA's Transition Support Team and maintained by the information technology staff of the Integrated Waste Management Board.
12. **Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards.** Application and nomination forms for the 2000 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards were distributed in June via the Internet and by mail. The annual award program is administered by Cal/EPA and the Resources Agency on behalf of the Governor's Office and is the state's most prestigious environmental honor. Award nominations are due August 31, 2000, with the award ceremony planned for December.
13. **California Environmental Technology Certification Program (CalCert).** CalCert conducts third-party evaluations of environmental technologies and processes, providing regulators, financiers and purchasers with credible information about environmental performance and benefits. During the first six months of 2000, Cal/EPA issued certifications for: a polystyrene foam sheet manufacturing process that does not contribute to the formation of ground level-ozone or the depletion of the upper-level ozone; a stormwater drain insert that removes oil and diesel fuel in water runoff; and compression-based pipe fittings designed to control VOC emissions. Cal/EPA staff also developed a Test Quality Assurance (QA) Plan template that technology clients are using to identify test objectives, standard methods, data collection, and statistical analyses in support of their performance claims.

Use of the Test QA Plan will reduce the costs and time for application preparation and technology evaluation. On international matters, Cal/EPA initiated efforts with government agencies and businesses in Canada, South Korea, India, Indonesia, and the Philippines to facilitate the acceptance of California certified technologies.

14. **Permit Assistance Centers.** In the first six months of 2000 the Cal/EPA Permit Assistance Centers provided assistance to 11,056 individuals who either telephoned, e-mailed or came into a center and asked for information on permits, licenses and other approvals needed for their business. This is an increase of 45 percent from the previous time period in 1999. In addition, the centers provided permit information to 43,448 individuals who visited the CalGOLD Web page. Also, information about permit assistance centers is now available in a brochure printed in Spanish that is distributed to organizations, trade associations, and conferences.

## Priorities for Second Half of 2000

1. **Organizational and Fiscal Review.** In January 2000, Cal/EPA presented "A Structural and Fiscal Review of the California Environmental Protection Agency" to the governor and to the Legislature. In response to several recommendations in the report, Cal/EPA is sponsoring legislation to make positive changes in the Agency. Among other things, the measure requires that the Secretary: 1) ensure that the budget of the Agency and each of its boards and departments consider and address cross-media environmental issues, 2) develop and adopt an agency information technology and information management policy, 3) develop an agency cross-media risk assessment policy, and 4) examine and evaluate existing site cleanup processes, and recommend improvements in order to obtain consistent standards and procedures that address all media and are protective of both public health and the environment. The legislation is the first of several initiatives that Cal/EPA is undertaking to develop new effective strategies to address environmental problems.
2. **Children's Environmental Health Center.** Legislation enacted last year and signed into law by the governor (SB 25, Escutia) created a Children's Environmental Health Center within Cal/EPA. Cal/EPA is in the process of establishing, recruiting, and filling an executive level position to direct the activities of the Center. Cal/EPA is committed to protection of children's health from exposures to pollutants in the environment. To this end, the director of the Center will assist the boards and departments within Cal/EPA to assess the effectiveness of statutes, regulations, and state programs designed to protect children from environmental hazards. The Center will also coordinate within Cal/EPA and with other state and federal agencies our regulatory efforts, research and data collection, and other programs and services that impact the environmental health of children.
3. **CalFed.** Cal/EPA will continue participation as a voting member of the CalFed Policy Group. The Phase II Report and the Implementation Plan will be issued in July for public comment. These reports were revised to reflect the Framework for Action CalFed agreement adopted in June. These reports support the final Programmatic EIS/EIR for CalFed to be released in late July. There will be a 30-day waiting period under the National Environmental Protection Act before the Record of Decision (ROD) can be signed for the EIS/EIR. Cal/EPA expects to review and sign the ROD by end of August.

The State Water Resources Control Board is working with CalFed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding on a process for certification of



CalFed surface water storage projects under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. This is expected to be completed by the end of August.

3. **Cal/EPA Environmental Management System Program.** During the second half of 2000, the Cal/EPA EMS Project will initiate the following:

- Initiate “**environmental excellence**” **agreements** with facilities that are currently in compliance with regulations to deliver additional “beyond compliance” and “beyond current performance” improvements in significant regulated and unregulated environmental aspects. Aspects that are targeted by the California Sustainability Plan and by the regional EMS would receive the first consideration for action.

Cal/EPA’s part of the agreement will be to explore such appropriate regulatory approaches as unified permitting, inspection, and reporting that can significantly contribute to accelerating the pace or reducing the cost of environmental improvement.

- Develop **regional environmental management systems** (EMS), multi-party agreements between Cal/EPA and state and local regulatory agencies, business and public advocacy groups to address California’s sustainability goals, target improved performance in significant regional environmental aspects, and identify regulatory barriers to enhanced environmental performance. Implementation will be accomplished through sector partnership agreements between Cal/EPA and state and local regulatory agencies and a responsible business sector, to achieve specified improvement that is beyond both current regulatory standards and current performance. Cal/EPA will explore such appropriate regulatory approaches as unified permitting, inspection, and reporting that can significantly contribute to accelerating the pace or reducing the cost of environmental improvement.
- Create a “**California Sustainability Plan**,” a long-term vision for environmental sustainability that delineates, for both regulated and unregulated environmental aspects critical to a sustainable future, goals, improvement targets and measures, contributing sectors, and appropriate regulatory or collaborative strategies. It will be developed in partnership with the California Environmental Dialog, with input from a broad group of stakeholders and the public.
- Develop a Cal/EPA environmental management system with the goal of creating a **model green government agency** for California state government. Demonstrate exemplary environmental practices in both regulated and unregulated aspects and disseminate the knowledge

gained about the reduction in environmental impacts and cost savings to other state and local government agencies and to California schools through the Cal/EPA school education program.

4. **Border Environmental Affairs.**

- **Strategic Border Environmental Plan.** The Office of the Secretary will continue working on the Strategic Border Environmental Plan. The draft strategic plan, which is targeted for completion by September, will be available for public review and comment. When completed, this plan will be the first comprehensive plan of the 10 U.S.-Mexico border states. Upon completion, the Office of the Secretary will begin implementation of the plan's vision, mission and goals.
- **Environmental Infrastructure Needs Assessment Report.** The third edition of this report will provide an update on environmental infrastructure needs identified in 1998, identify new environmental infrastructure needs on both sides of the California-Baja California border, and provide information on available financial resources for funding projects. Additionally, in an effort to assist border communities seeking financial resources for projects, Cal/EPA will publish a "Border Communities Handbook," which outlines criteria and processes needed to receive BECC certification and secure funding.
- **Cal/EPA Border Web Page.** The Border Affairs Unit in coordination with Cal/EPA boards and departments are developing a comprehensive Border Web site that will include the latest information on environmental projects, infrastructure, meetings, related documents and links. It is anticipated that the Web site will be online by August 2000.

5. **Enforcement.** Development will continue on a cross-media training program for all Cal/EPA board and department enforcement. This training program will produce a cross-media inspector certification program. A Cal/EPA inter-board and department task force was assembled to oversee the development of the program's training standards and curricula. Curriculum design was completed in June. Actual training will begin in the second half of 2000. It is anticipated that this training will eventually be offered to local agency counterparts such as air districts, CUPAs and LEAs.

6. **Environmental Justice.** Cal/EPA is committed to fair and equitable treatment of people of all races and economic levels with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws and policies in California. Legislation enacted last year and signed into law by the governor (SB 115, Solis) requires Cal/EPA to develop a model environmental justice mission statement for all of its boards and

departments. A number of programs are already underway to incorporate environmental justice into policy and regulatory and enforcement programs. The goal of Cal/EPA is to empower communities to identify and respond to inequitable environmental impacts by getting involved in environmental decision-making.

Cal/EPA is in the process of establishing, recruiting and filling the position of Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice. The Assistant Secretary will be responsible for developing the mission statement and programs, managing the Agency's environmental justice activities, coordinating those of the Agency's boards and departments, and acting as the central point of contact on environmental justice issues with the public, business, federal and local government agencies, and other state agencies.

7. **Military Base Remediation and Reuse.** The Office of the Secretary will continue to provide assistance, leadership, and mediation services to the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Water Resources Control Board, and municipalities to clean up contamination at closed military facilities to return them to productive local economic use.
8. **New Cal/EPA Building.** Preparation for the move into the new Cal/EPA building will intensify in the latter half of 2000. The assessment of parking space supply, demand, and allocation will be completed. The initial phase of the move-in begins in late August with the move and installation of information technology systems, with the complete move-in to be completed by December. Four major public art pieces will be completed and installed in the building. A grand opening celebration will be held by the City of Sacramento and the project developer to welcome Cal/EPA employees to their new home.
9. **New Cal/EPA Building Orientation.** Approximately 60 orientation sessions will be conducted during the latter half of 2000 for Cal/EPA employees moving into the new Cal/EPA building beginning in August. The orientation sessions will provide important information to Cal/EPA employees to assist them with the transition into the new building. Topics such as office space, building features, neighborhood services, emergency preparedness, and building management will be covered in the orientations.

Each orientation session will also include a tour of the building and a “welcome packet” with basic information for employees on building entrances and exits, where elevators are located, the locations of Cal/EPA boards and departments and floor plans, neighborhood services, visitor parking and building protocol, conference room scheduling, and contact information.

10. **Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards.** After nominations for this year’s Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards are received by August 31, 2000, Cal/EPA and the Resources Agency will evaluate each nomination and make award recipient recommendations to the Governor’s Office for consideration. The awards will be presented at a ceremony in December.
11. **Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs).** Work will continue on the development of a geographical Web-based database for information collected by the CUPAs. CUPAs collect detailed information regarding the storing and handling of hazardous materials at over 100,000 businesses in California. When completed, the information collected on where hazardous materials are being stored, chemical releases, and inspection findings will be available to the public on the Internet. In order to help improve the performance of local CUPAs, the state conducts an evaluation of each CUPA every three years. To improve this process, a special workgroup was formed to review the evaluation process and to make suggestions for improvement. The primary goal of this effort is the continued improvement of the CUPAs in order to create programs that are coordinated and consistent statewide.